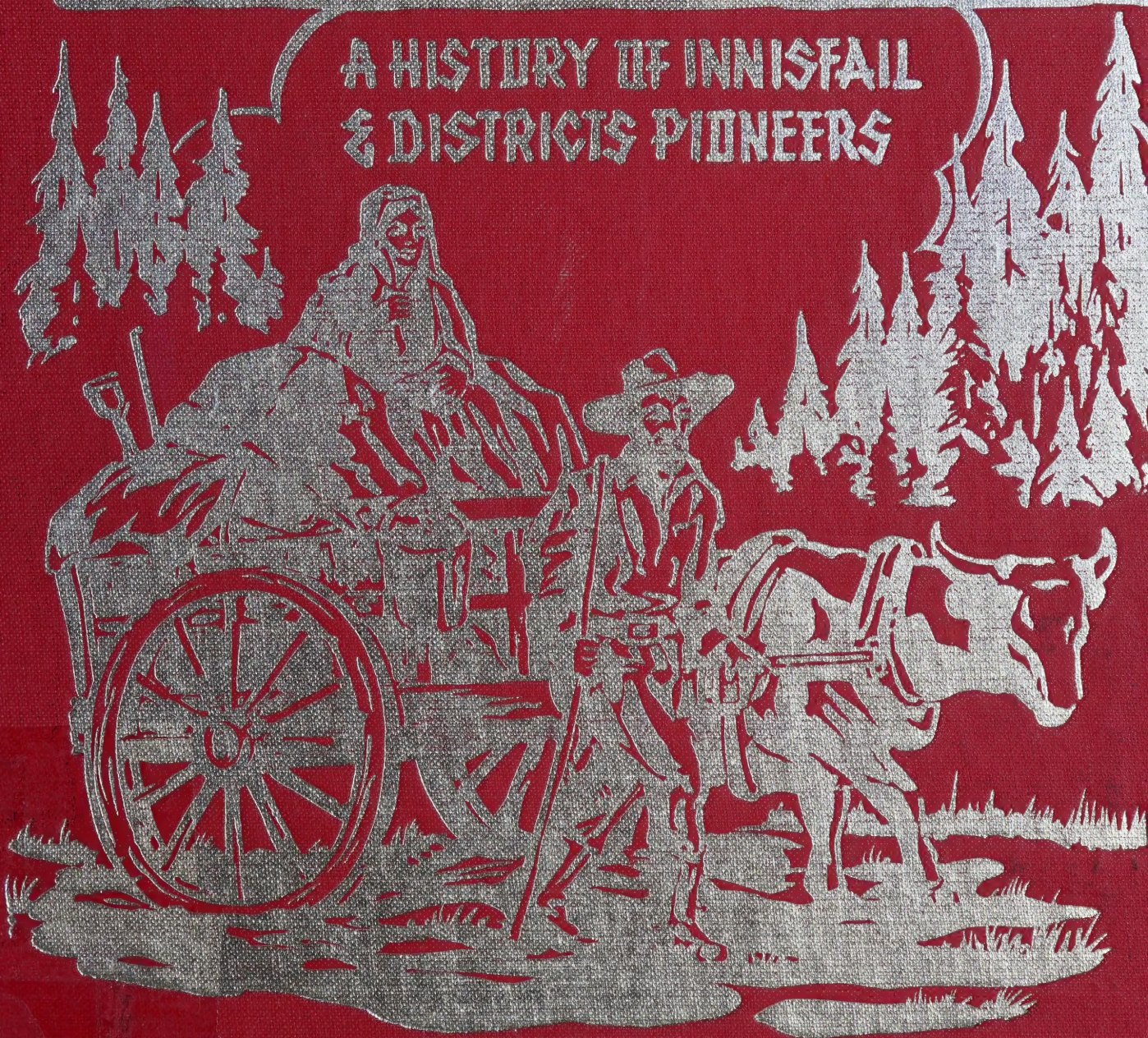




LANDFILL YEARS

A HISTORY OF INNISFAIR
& DISTRICTS PIONEERS





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CANDLELIGHT YEARS

Innisfail & District Historical Society “Book Section”

Dedicated To the Pioneers of Innisfail and Districts,
who blazed the trails and endured the hardships to
make it possible for us and the future generations
to enjoy.

Standard Book No. 0-919212-35-2

Published by Innisfail & District Historical Society “Book Section”

INNISFAIL, ALBERTA

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Innisfail and District has produced many talented people, one of which is James Lynch. He designed and drew the most suitable cover possible for our book. His idea originated from the arrival of his Father-in-law, Alfred Aspinall, who along with his cousin, Willie Campbell arrived in Innisfail in 1893 by ox cart.

We would take this opportunity to say "Thank you, Jim, for helping us to produce such an attractive book".

The title "Candlelight Years" was submitted with over 140 other titles and was chosen by secret ballot by 24 persons.

From the pen of Mrs. Mable "Snider" Bertrand: "I submitted the name Candlelight Years because it symbolizes a more gentle part of the rugged life of the pioneers. To someone out in the prairie night, it was a guiding light — its small gleam made brighter by the blackness of the night. It was a special time — between the toil of the day and the slumber of the night, that candles and lamps were used. Within that small circle of light, a family were drawn closer together in a warm, loving atmosphere of peace and contentment. Outside a storm may be raging, but inside all was safe and secure.

I was privileged to have lived in those days when we were happy with the simple things of life and so little meant so much to us all. It is my desire that each reader of Candlelight Years will be able in some measure to relive those most cherished memories of yesteryears".

We are most grateful for the articles we received from Lt. Gov. Grant MacEwan, Premier Lougheed, J.G. MacGregor and the R.C.M.P. We would thank Glenbow Foundation for the use of some of their photographs.

We could not have started such a project without a place to work. This was made possible through the understanding and assistance in so many ways of Mrs. Lucille (Mac) West. She actually turned her home into an office that had no office hours — operating from early morning until after midnight all these months.

I would thank Dr. Peggy Godkin for her most able assistance and the great co-operation she gave me at all times.

Mrs. Ethel Smith did a superb job regarding book sales and taking charge of our finances. She had the assistance of the following in the pre-sales of books: Mabel Bertrand, Bill Bryan, Reta Cole, Marion Calvert, Donna Chadwick, Mrs. J. Campbell, Ann Duncan, Mrs. Romie Daines, Elsie Dulaney, Molly Fagan, Peggy Godkin, Sadie Inglis, Kathleen Jensen, Ethel Lewis, Harry Moore, Vivian McArthur, Orval McArthur, Kay Munro, Audrey Ortwein, Bernard Parsonage, Elaine Peterson, Gerald Spence, Norman Sveinson, Rose Smith, Irene Thurston and Mr. & Mrs. Frank West.

Frank West was our Historical Consultant and with his excellent memory and assistance we were able to get more accurate data.

Mrs. Dorothy Leslie, Mrs. Isobel Chrestenson, Mrs. Norman Layden and Mr. Edward MacLeod acted as our Proof Readers.

Those busy on the telephone committee were: Mrs. Doris Brown, Mrs. Reta Cole, Mrs. I. Chrestenson, Mrs. Isobel Carter, Mrs. Dorothy Leslie, Bert Lalor, Mrs. Rose Smith, Mrs. Ina Scarlett, Mrs. Peg Walton and Frank & Mac West.

We would take this opportunity to thank all those who submitted stories for our book. It was you, your Pioneer relatives and friends who made this publication possible. It is not merely the history we would present, but also the romantic tradition of Pioneer Families. This book is to preserve the stories of our Pioneers.

We would venture the hope that with what has been gathered, what has been learned, what we have been able to piece together will not be without its interest to the present day population. May "Candlelight Years" bring life and light to the Past.

Please accept our apologies for any errors or omissions.

(signed) Donna Chadwick

ALBERTA



OFFICE OF THE PREMIER
LEGISLATIVE BUILDING
EDMONTON

MESSAGE FROM PREMIER LOUGHEED

On behalf of the Government of Alberta, I want to congratulate the Innisfail and District Historical Society for their efforts in preparing a history of Innisfail's pioneers.

I recently had an opportunity to visit the Historic Building in Innisfail, which I found very impressive. Residents of Innisfail have a justifiable pride in their history, and in the important contribution that their citizens have made to Alberta for many years.

I know that all Albertans will welcome the contribution being made to our appreciation of Alberta's history through the preparation of this book. Please accept my best wishes to the Innisfail and District Historical Society in your efforts to increase our awareness of our exciting history, and the important contribution that has been made by our pioneers.

A large, stylized cursive signature of Peter Lougheed.

Peter Lougheed



OFFICE OF LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR
EDMONTON, ALBERTA

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FOREWORD by LT/Gov. Grant MacEwan

Every community has its own distinctive personality and its own good reasons for pride. Innisfail is no exception. The urban centre began with a lovely Scottish name and its good soil and attractive setting drew settlers from far parts of the world, a vigorous and determined and colorful lot of pioneers. Their efforts transformed the area and made it one of the most progressive and beautiful in the land. It gathered fame for magnificent scenery, excellent soil, fine livestock, superior seed and good husbandry.

The transformation was not achieved without toil and hardship; there were mistakes and tragedies. These were but part of the price in experience paid by those who were building for the future. But the result was good and it would be a very great misfortune if the ups and downs, successes and failures, triumphs and tragedies, tears and laughter were allowed to be forgotten.

Joseph Howe spoke agreement in 1871 when he said: "A wise nation preserves its records, gathers up its muniments, decorates the tombs of its illustrious dead, repairs its great public structures, and fosters national pride and love of country, by perpetual reference to the sacrifices and glories of the past."

Local history can be both excitingly attractive and useful; it is largely the story of people who had the imagination and courage to tackle the pioneer tasks. The Innisfail story is punctuated with great pioneer names, beginning with that of the intrepid Anthony Henday, first of the newcomer race to set foot on the Innisfail soil, first to see the Rockies. Many who followed were of the same courageous breed and should be remembered.

It was an important decision in the life of Innisfail when imaginative citizens resolved to gather the threads of early events and weave them into an enduring fabric in book form. The new book will be a major contribution to local treasure, a lasting reminder of the people who broke trail, the problems they faced, the fun they made for themselves and, altogether, what they did to make their community a bright gem in today's crown of Alberta communities.

May the new Book of Memories find an eager and enthusiastic response from all who share pride in the heritage of a great community.

INNISFAIL'S EARLIER HISTORY by J. G. MacGregor

From a hilltop rising out of Innisfail's bounteous and beautiful countryside the first white man ever to visit Alberta got his first view of the spectacular Rocky Mountains. He was Anthony Henday, who in October 1754 accompanied a family or two of Crees which had decided to spend the winter in the shelter of the woods along the headwaters of the Red Deer River.

His trip had started on June 26 at York Factory on Hudson Bay where he received instructions to travel into the prairies, report on what he saw and try to meet the Blackfoot Indians who as yet were known to white men by rumour only. After ascending the rivers to a point near Melfort, Saskatchewan, he and his band of Crees struck off on foot, and crossing Saskatchewan stepped over Alberta's eastern boundary on September 11, 1754. That night, as he wrote up his Journal, Henday set down his first impressions: "Level land, few woods, & plenty of good water...Indians killed 8 Waskesew."

Level land, some woods, plenty of good water and an abundant food supply — what more could anyone ask? This was Alberta as seen through the eyes of a fur trader two hundred years ago.

For weeks he and his friends wandered pleasantly south and west, revelling in the sunshine, regaled by the rich verdure of Alberta's magnificent untouched wild beauty, rejoicing in its unlimited supply of elk and buffalo, and refreshed by its sparkling streams. Early in October, Henday crossed the Red Deer River near Delburne and within a day or so was welcomed to a Blackfoot camp made up of some two hundred tents. One of his objectives had been accomplished — he had finally met this tribe of the fearsome, warlike repute.

But another of his objectives — to talk the Blackfoot into trading with the white man — remained to be undertaken. When his mission was explained to the chief of the Blackfoot, he received a polite, indifferent answer which he could only construe as tantamount to no.

Although as a commercial venture Henday's visit came to nothing, this first meeting of a white man and a group of Blackfoot chiefs had been conducted on an amicable basis. For the first time a white man had seen one of the great Blackfoot camps and witnessed a way of life which, although he may not have realized it, was in its infancy. A mere twenty years had elapsed since his hosts had obtained horses, and in that remarkably short span of time these animals had transformed their masters from the foot-slogging Indians of the dog-days to the mobile cavalymen he had seen in this great camp, feasting in the midst of an abundant and beautiful land.

The very first meeting between white man and Blackfoot was over. Each, with some minor reservations, had met the other as an equal. Each had been glad to see the other. Henday had wanted something from the Blackfoot and had been politely turned

down. The Blackfoot wanted nothing from the white man.

But other surprises were in store for Henday. About October 27, some ten miles east of Innisfail, he crossed the crest of the hills from which, if the weather was reasonable, he could see the mountains. If he did not see them that day, he would do so a day or so later, and became the first white man to see the summit of the great chain of the continent's backbone, the Rocky Mountains. From that hilltop he and his small party went on to winter in the area between Innisfail and Rocky Mountain House. Finally, in the spring of 1755 he made his way to the Saskatchewan River near Edmonton and then descended that stream on his way back to York Factory.

For nearly a century and a half after Henday's visit to the Innisfail country, Alberta's wild beauty remained undisturbed. Wandering explorers, such as Peter Fidler who in 1792 travelled south through the hills a few miles east of Innisfail, and David Thompson who in 1801 crossed the Red Deer River some twenty-five miles west of it, reported on their discoveries and told of the activities of the native peoples. Once Edmonton House was established in 1795 and Rocky Mountain House some six years later, the fur traders made their way back and forth and reported on their reception by the Indians.

Most of this time the Blackfoot ruled the prairies from Edmonton south. Any white trader foolish enough to venture too far from his well-armed post rarely returned to tell of his adventures. The prairies were Blackfoot territory and the Blackfoot planned to keep them so.

By 1873 when the Rev. John McDougall was starting his Morley Mission, he worked out a cart trail south from Edmonton through the Innisfail area and then headed off southwest. Two years later the North West Mounted Police established Fort Calgary and before long the Calgary-Edmonton freighting trail came into existence. Along this trail intrepid pioneers established stopping houses, such as the "Spruces" and the Constantine house in the Innisfail district.

In 1891 the steel of the Calgary and Edmonton Railway reached Innisfail from the south and the rush of settlement began. Fortunately settlers came from many lands and the Innisfail community received representatives from many countries who came to form part of the fabric of Alberta's splendid ethnic mosaic.

One interesting colony was started in 1891 by a small group of Icelanders who chose a forested area to start their community of Markerville. With them came Stephansson Gudmundson Stephansson, a man perhaps better known in Norse countries today than in his adopted land, but nevertheless one of the few Canadian poets to be commemorated by a Canadian Historic Sites and Monuments Board cairn.

By the time the 1901 census was taken the area around Innisfail was in the forefront of settlement along the Calgary and Edmonton Railway. Whereas the Olds area to the south could boast a population of

218 and the Red Deer area to the north some 323, Innisfail had 317.

About that time, like a favourable conjunction of planets, several events occurred which sent Alberta off into a veritable whirlwind of settlement. Hitherto, all its farmers had come in seeking a mere subsistence — a better existence than they had had in their old home — and some of them had not questioned the level of subsistence so long as they could find freedom and escape from tyranny. From that time on, however, immigrants came in filled with the idea of farming and of exporting their produce. For two new

conditions that were to be of vital importance to Alberta's arable soils had come into play — a market for wheat and new machinery to aid in the production and utilization of newly developed wheats which would withstand the prairies' frosts.

These settlers, the earliest hardy pioneers who chose the Innisfail area, found their faith in it well founded. As will be seen by the experiences cited in the following pages, they had hard times and good times, but in the end none of them ever regretted throwing in his lot with Innisfail's rich, bountiful and beautiful countryside.

J.G. MacGregor author of "Behold the Shining Mountains" "A History of Alberta"



Cree Indian Teepees in Innisfail, 1898; photograph taken by W. Playle of Innisfail.



Mrs. Mary St. Denis and children: Maggie, Oliver, Louis and niece Flora La rocque

"Kutuwyipi", a Cree Indian, and two Stony Indians, taken by W. Playle in Innisfail in 1900.





Cree Indians; Studio portrait by Playle taken in 1898.



"Kutuwyipi" in Cree costume; Studio portrait by Playle, 1900.

EARLY POPLAR GROVE HISTORY (INNISFAIL)

In the early summer of '83, a small company consisting of three men — James Brown, William McPhee and James McCragie, might have been seen wending their way north on the old Indian trail that ran from the crossing of the Bow River near its confluence with the Elbow to the Saskatchewan at Ft. Edmonton.

At this time, only a few habitations existed between Calgary and Edmonton and these were all located on the "trail".

Sandy Fraser had journeyed north a few months previous and located himself on the land afterwards owned by Alfred Carter and then the Duke of Sutherland. It was Sandy Fraser that these three Scots hired at the time of their journey. The country was like a sea, the luxuriant grasses of the prairie waving in the breeze and when they began to get near the timbered country, the glistening lakes and the myriads of wild ducks and bands of prairie chicken, it is no wonder that the travelling pilgrims hailed this as the "land of promise". They reached Poplar Grove. This name came from the freighters who named it because of the view.

In those days long strings of carts drawn by a steer or pony carrying goods to Edmonton and furs on return might have been seen at any time. These vehicles constructed entirely of wood, could be heard from a long distance away. The wheels, innocent of lubrication, squealing and whining on the wooden axels as the train made its way slowly up and down the hills. Poplar Grove, was a favorite camping ground. There was plenty of wood, water and pasture. The carts were driven by Indians and breeds, careless as to what tomorrow might bring and at no time did they object to staying a longer time at Poplar Grove.

McPhee and McCragie moved along, but James Brown stayed and squatted. There was no survey as yet near the Little Red Deer River. James Brown and his sister (later Mrs. David Sinclair) spent the winter of '83 in this place of wonderment.

It was in 1884 that the log house, known as "The Spruces" was erected. In later years this place was the home of C.G. Ross of Ottawa. This gentleman imported pupils from England and for a consideration undertook to teach them farming. The place became known as "The Model Farm". The Spruces, today is located at the Innisfail & District Historical Society site and contains artifacts.

By 1886, there were more arrivals. The great factor that conduced security of life and property was the N.W.M.P. The members of this force were well disciplined, well equipped and did patrol the country throughout its length and breadth.

In the spring and fall, prairie fires were frequent and owing to the tremendous growth of vegetation these swept across the country for hundreds of miles.

The railroad question was settled and contracts let for grading and in 1889 they saw the beginning of construction and hopes of the pioneers ran high. Marvellous things were to happen when the railroad came through. At this time, two stage coaches were running. One leaving Calgary and the other, Edmonton — on Monday. They would arrive at their destinations on Thursdays. The sleeping ac-

commodation at the stopping houses was limited and often when ladies were along, a portion of the room was curtained off with blankets to make a "a Lady's Chamber".

Napoleon Remillards' stopping place was where the mail came to. Napoleon Remillard had the first stopping house here and later a lake was named for him "Napoleon Lake".

Construction camps reached Poplar Grove and settlers received their first cash since coming to the country by supplying hay, potatoes, beef, butter etc. to these camps.

And so it went, people arriving, full of hope and they each gave to the beginnings of Innisfail, as we know it today.

Donna Chadwick



Indians visiting in 1891. They travelled the Old McKenzie Trail which ran from Poplar Grove north along the west side of Antler Hill to join the Calgary-Edmonton Trail near Red Deer.

FROM "THE INNISFAIL FREELANCE" July 23, 1903 For Incorporation

The first official step in the forward movement for incorporation was taken last Thursday night, when in response to a call from Overseer Kremer, some forty residents attending a meeting discussed the advisability of incorporation as a town. Mr. F. M. Oldham was appointed Chairman and E. J. Fream Secretary. Mr. Fream moved, seconded by Mr. Archer, that the Overseer be instructed to take a census of the Village, and if the population is large enough to warrant incorporation, the Overseer be further instructed to call another meeting and report in due course. Dr. George said he had come prepared to hear the question fully debated, but so far only those

in favour had spoken. He hoped those opposed would give some of their reasons for their opposition. Mr. Lundy then said that Red Deer, Lacombe, and Wetaskiwin wished themselves villages again. Mr. Fawdrey said he did not think Innisfail was in a position for incorporation. Mr. West said he did not think any Town wanted to go back to the degrading state of a village. All people he had spoken to from the Towns mentioned were proud of their towns and that their people had sufficient push to become incorporated Towns. Innisfail would be the same. Mr. Archer then spoke, expressing regret that some of the prominent men in town were opposed to incorporation, and was disappointed also that they had not advanced any argument to sustain their position.

It is not necessary for the town to go into debt. The council elect would be composed of business men who would not go to needless expenditure. F.M. Rogers, then spoke, giving his reasons for opposing incorporation. Dr. George said that work done by the village was practically worthless, as No permanent improvements could be made until incorporation took place. Mr. Ramsay spoke, showing that incorporated towns could borrow money upon very favourable terms. The question was then put to the meeting, and the motion carried. The vote was 18 to 5. After a vote of thanks to the Chairman for the able way he had conducted the meeting, the meeting was adjourned.

TOWN SCENES



Future townsite of Innisfail across from Constantine's Stopping House in 1895.



Innisfail in 1905



Central Avenue, Innisfail.



Innisfail 1903.



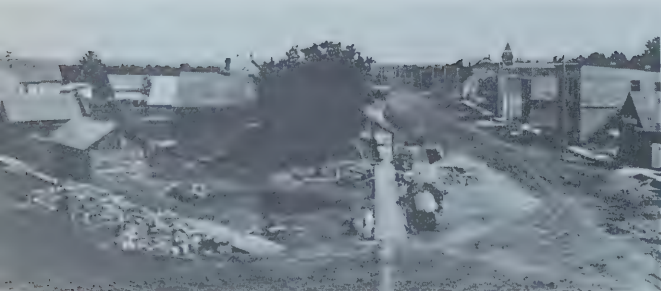
Old Innisfail; showing Alberta Hotel about 1910.



Shows Railroad Street and Main Street, Innisfail, about 1910.



Innisfail on a busy day in 1914.



Excavating for the Bank of Commerce. On the left — Anglican Church, Orange Hall (with pole), laundry, West's delivery stable, West's Store (by the trees), Freelance, Rossland Boarding house; across the street is: Baptist Church, Playle's Photo and Art Gallery, Curry and Constantine Store, and Jessie Stewart Store.



Bank of Commerce.



Main Street, Innisfail, 1910.



View of Railroad Street, 1909.



Innisfail in 1910



Passenger train arriving at Innisfail station in 1910.



Shows Royal Hotel (where Berscht Store is today), Union Bank, Coliseum, in 1910.



Horse and buggy days; note the wooden sidewalks; about 1909.



Taken in 1907 before the Coliseum was built; Mr. W. R. Wilson, Mgr. of Bank, is holding the dog.



A. E. Hall, Ted Onsum, L. M. MacLean, Sandy Dallas, taken around 1914.



J. T. and Jack Rogers, A. Lennox, and W. McFadyen putting the roof on the Innisfail Opera House. (Today, the Moose Hall).



1910 David Dickson (left); Wm. Geary (right).



Dr. Membry, M.D.; Dr. Carter, D.D.S., 1904 — first dentist in Innisfail. His office was over the pool room.



Noah Bauman's Dray.



The Bar at the Royal Hotel. L. to R.: Mr. Haberlin, Casey Woods (bartender), and Mr. Robertson.



Inside the Union Bank in Innisfail in 1912. L. to R.: Babe Cooke, Charlie Rollins, Mr. Rutledge, and Mr. Cuthbertson.



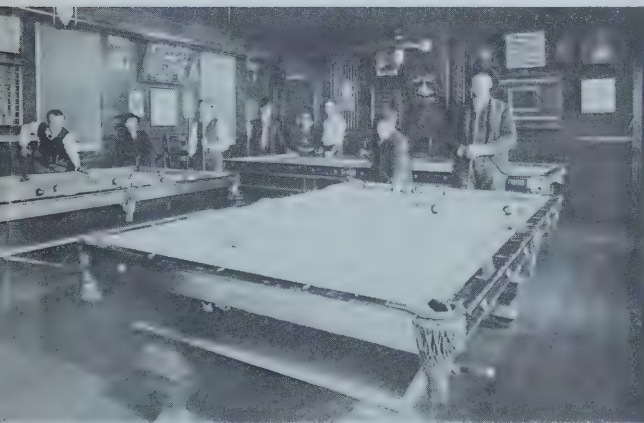
The Innisfail Barber Shop. L. to R.: Alec Munro, Bob Sharp, Fleet Kirkham, Roy McArthur near the cash register; taken about 1915.



Inside Hodge's Coliseum. R. to L.: Bill Dodd, Hugh Hodge, Mr. J. E. Fawdrey, Willie Hodge, Ossie Fawdrey, Miss Smith, Miss Murphy, Mrs. Frances Morris, Miss MacLeod, and Percy Hill.



G. W. West and Joe deLong ready for customers.



Thorne's Pool Hall around 1916.



January 8, 1904 and NO SNOW! Those shown in the picture are: Tom White, Norman Kremer, Billie Wells, Tom Pyle, Sandy Kremer, Geordie Kirkham, Casey Woods, Dr. Carter, Theo Onsom, Arthur Maley, Jack Bear, Charlie McCallum, P. Bouchier, Harry Douglas, Dr. Membry, Billie Fawdrey, Frank Malcolm, William Geary, Hiram McDermott, Reg Geary (4 years old).



Nov. 1911 Town Council. L. to R.: Back row: Norman Briggs, Wm. Gunston, L. M. MacLean; front row: H. J. Saturley, W. C. A. Watt, Mayor G. W. West, Hiram McDermott, L. C. Harry (Sec. Treas.).



Panoramic view of Innisfail about 1910.

AWAY OUT WEST IN NINETY-NINE

Away out West in Ninety-nine
 A little town had started, and was doing fine.
 People came from away off far
 By ox cart, covered wagon and C.P.R.
 By then, most of them came here by rail
 To the Little town named Innisfail
 It was a friendly town, amongst the best
 And its first merchant was G.W. West
 The people who stayed here were plenty tough
 For the country was new, and the going rough.
 The wagon trails got soft as mush
 Following the high places, around the bush.
 A mention is due to the horses of the west
 For their hard work and service, they gave of their best.

Innisfail has grown, now quite a large town
 With good paved streets, where the trees were cut down.

We have come a long way to Seventy-three
 And this district's a good one for you and for me.
 So "here's to Our Pioneers" who came out this way
 Starting many good things we are enjoying today.
by Seth Cummins

THE INNISFAIL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

The necessary declaration signed by fifty inhabitants having been sent in to Regina, then the seat of government for the North-West Territories, a permit dated March 21, 1892, signed by Lieut-Governor Royal, was received by Mr. C. G. Ross, and the formation of the Innisfail Agricultural Society became an accomplished fact.

Mr. C. Sproat was elected president. One hundred and fourteen paid for memberships in the new venture, a surprising number when it is remembered that the district was under two years old, that money was conspicuous by its absence, and that there was no cash market for the produce they raised.

It was decided to hold the first fair on Oct. 6th of that year, 1892.

A week later, on Aug. 18th, details for the fair were arranged. It was held in Mr. Simpson's building and on adjoining land. None but members were eligible to show. An admission fee of 15c for adults and 10c for children was charged. The judges were D. L. Cruickshank, J. D. Lauder and A. Lucas, for horses. J. McLeod, James Brown and W. McInnes, cattle and



Agricultural Fair Stock Show 1898; CPR Station on north side of tracks can be seen at the center.

sheep. A. Trimble, D. Parker and R. Nichol, Pigs and Poultry. L. Gaetz, T. Eastman, J. Flecher, sr., G.W. West, S.J. Curry, Vegetables and grain and G. Constantine, Butter. Mrs. C. Curry, Mrs. John Brown and Mrs. Speakman, Bread and Fancy Work.

Mr. McLeod gave a one dollar prize for the best baby, under one year, born in Alberta. This prize does not seem to have been claimed. Mr. Wells contributed a bushel of potatoes for the best pump. Mr. Content gave a pump and piping at half price for the best three sheaves of wheat, oats and barley; also the same prize for the best Implement or article for farm use made in district. At a meeting on Sept. 8, the secretary stated that additional special prizes had been donated. A table lamp by Mr. McBride, a pair of ladies' boots by Mr. Constantine, two buggy whips



Agricultural Fair Stock Show 1910, July 14 and 15, being held at the present Fairgrounds. The barn was later sold and moved away.



by John Smith, half sack flour by Curry Bros., 5 lbs. Tea by Mr. Stiles.

According to the press report of Oct. 12th, 1892, the fair was a decided success and attracted visitors from miles around.

EARLY CHURCHES

ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH by Doris Brown

Rev. James Buchanan, M.A., was the first minister of St. Andrew's and came to Innisfail in 1891. In 1891 the manse was completed and the following year the Church was erected. The Church was opened by Rev. Charles Gordon (Ralph Connor) of Banff.

The first Communion Roll was formed in 1892 — Mrs. J.A. Simpson is one whose name appears on the first roll. The first Board of Management were Messrs. Charles Murray, G.W. West, John Dodd and Samuel Dickson. The First Board of Trustees were Messrs Gibson Munro, John McLeod, John Dodd, and J.A. Simpson. Other early ministers who

followed Rev. Buchanan were: Rev. Fernie, Rev. Spear, Rev. Allan, Rev. J.S. Shortt, and Rev. Peter Fisher.

John, Hugh and Jim Brown are three generations who have served as Clerk of the Session.



Presbyterian Church and Manse



The Choir at St. Andrew's in 1927. Back row, L. to R.: Mr. Howard (Organist), Lyle McMahon, Earl McMahon, Jack Law, J. C. Calder, Edward MacLeod, Merit Watt, Lewis Llewellyn, Clarence Nichol. Center row: Doris Nichol, Eda Nash, Mrs. Dorsey, Mrs. R. J. McMahon, Mrs. Wm. Watt, Janet Watt, Alice Scott; front row: Mildred Rogers, Lois Kremer, Margaret Brown, Margaret Dallas, Grace Watt, Rachel Scott, Pearl Laird, Isabelle MacLeod, Violet Scott, Mrs. J. C. Calder (choir leader).

ST. MARK'S CHURCH by Ellen Handford

St. Mark's Church, Innisfail, was opened for worship June 26th, 1892 by the Rev. W.H. Barnes of Banff. The Rev. H. B. Brashier, who had been ordained on January, 1892 was priest in charge and R.P. Wood and S. Twissell were church wardens.

The territory served by St. Mark's at that time extended from Mirror to Olds.

According to the records, the first marriage performed on March 15, 1892 was that of Thomas F. Ellis and Edith Pennington. The first confirmation, on Dec. 4, 1891 was that of Martha Bioletti.

Early clergymen in the church were: Rev. L.J.H. Wooden, Rev. Robert Connell, Rev. W.R. Burns, Rev. H.W. Sykes, Rev. W. Whitehead, Rev. H.E. Scallan, Rev. W.B. Church, Rev. A. Tate, Rev. F.B. Rawle and Rev. John Swaffield Orton.

The Church building was extensively repaired and altered in 1921, at which time the stained glass window was installed. The regimental colors of the 187th Battalion Canadian Infantry hang in the church. These colors had been purchased by the people of Innisfail and presented to the regiment. They are said to



Anglican Church

have gone to England with the Battalion and after the unit was broken up, to have been deposited in Westminster Abbey for the duration of the war.

Mr. F.M. Oldham and Fred Rogers started a Boys' Choir in St. Mark's Anglican Church about 1906. Mr. Oldham is mentioned as conducting a 'lay' service when the rector was at other points.



Interior of St. Mark's Anglican Church.



Choir at St. Mark's in 1905. Back row: Mr. Oldham, Rev. Sykes, F. M. Rogers; second row: Desmond George, Shepard Barwis, Stanley Fawdry, Curly Foster; front row: Freddie George, Ossie Fawdry, Grant Geary, Gregory Bryan, Denys Bryan.

INNISFAIL METHODIST CHURCH

The Methodist Church was built in 1896 in Innisfail with the first minister being Rev. Singh. Hazel Blair (Center) was christened in the first church. She recalls hearing how the members of the 1896-97 era hauled grain in grain wagons to the Calgary mills and on their return trips brought back pews for the Methodist Church here.

The fire of 1913 burnt the original church. The work began immediately on a new Church on the same site. The new Church was dedicated in 1914 while Rev. Findlay was here.



Methodist Church, 1900.

Miss Jury was a devout member all her life and had the "cradle roll" and no new baby was ever missed. She was a great worker in the Sunday School and always saw that the Church was in good order and brightened with her weekly arrangements of flowers or plants.

The Foxes' and the Inghams played a great part in the Church. They were active in the Sunday School Choir, Ladies' Aid, and Mission Society. They served for many years and were an inspiration to those who followed.

OUR LADY OF PEACE PARISH by Father Seratto

Before the first Roman Catholic Church was built in Innisfail, the missionary priests would say mass in a home occupied by Mr. Carey and also in a home occupied by Misses Dea.

In 1905, the first church was built. Father H. Voisin was the priest at that time and some of the parishoners were people who had come over from France (Mr. & Mrs. Hermary, Mr & Mrs. Lerouge and Mr. & Mrs. Becarte).

On July 21, 1907, the church was dedicated and blessed in honor of St. Louis and for many years the parish was known as St. Louis Parish. The Church was blessed by Bishop Legal and on that day he also gave the sacrament of confirmation to: Francis Reaume, Clement Thompson, Bernard Rooney, Jennie May Dodd, Mary Norma, Alice deLong, Clara Gamacher, Minnie Hamilton and Margaret Rooney. The first Holy Communion class in the parish was held on July 19, 1908 and included Aristide Becart, Gabriel and Gilbert Hermary, Robert Lerouge, Peter and Mary Johnson, John and Margaret St. Denis and Josephine Isbister.

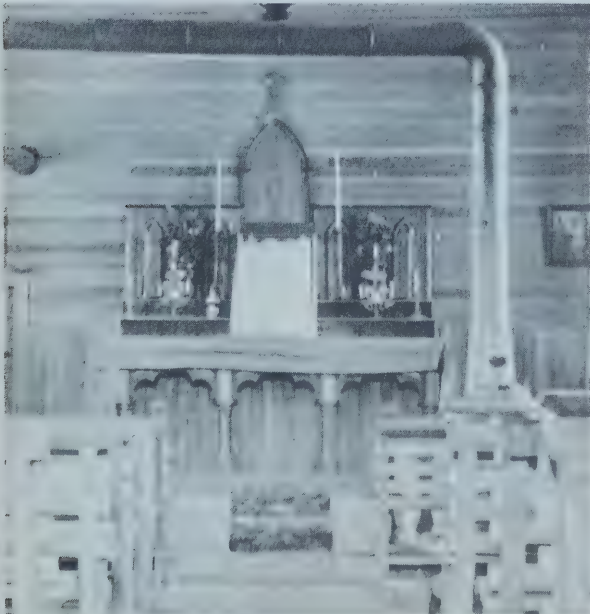
The parish of St. Louis, in the early days served the area of Red Deer, Olds, Blackfalds, and Three Hills. The first priests of the parish were Fathers: Voisin, Lamort, Forget, Chienard, and Roncy.



First Catholic Church at Innisfail "St. Louis de France": from the family album of Mrs. C. G. Lererige (Red Deer). Taken 1906



Father Henry Voisin, Superior of the Fathers of Tincheliray. He was the first priest in Innisfail.



Interior of "St. Louis de France". 1906

THE INNISFAIL BAPTIST CHURCH by Rev. Ellwood Hill

The beginning of the Baptist work in Innisfail goes back to about 1894. It was around this time that a group of local Baptist people formed an assembly and put a building up. This building stood at the present Innisfail Co-op Store site until 1963. Two of the early Pastors were Rev. James Samis and Rev. T. Habershaw. In the early 1920's, the building was temporarily rented to the Salvation Army and the Baptist work was suspended for some time. Mr. Art McKay, Mr. Roy Ross, Mr. W.H. Whiteside, Mr. J.K. McKay and Mr. J. McDonald re-opened the Baptist work and served as deacons for the Church. The pulpit was filled by travelling preachers and student pastors until 1930.



Baptist Church, 1902.

In June, 1930, Mr. Wm. Aberhart was invited to hold special meetings and it was following these meetings that the congregation requested Mr. Aberhart's assistance in re-organizing the Church. During 1931-32, there was no resident pastor and the Church was served by Mr. Ernest C. Manning who travelled from Calgary to hold services each weekend.

During the last 15 years the Baptist Church has grown in its' concern for missions at home and abroad. We acknowledge the words of scripture which state that "Whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved". Therefore, it is our desire to see many in this town and 'round the world who will not only have opportunity to hear that Christ came into the world to save sinners, but also that many will respond to Christ's glorious invitation to "Believe on the Lord Jesue Christ and thou shalt be saved".



Early Church Service in the West country.

187TH BATTALION CANADIAN INFANTRY by Hamond Gates

The Battalion was recruited in Central Alberta in the spring and summer of the year 1916 for overseas service. CO Lt. Col. Robinson, with three companies, was stationed at Red Deer, while C Company, with Capt. Stanley in command was stationed at Innisfail and its members were mostly recruited from this town and district.

Later that summer, the Battalion entrained for Sarcree Camp, Calgary, picking up C Company at Innisfail enroute. While at Calgary the Company was commanded by Major Swainson.



Senator Michener presenting the Colours.

On November 25, 1916 the Battalion left Sarcree to go overseas, stopping for a while at Amherst, Nova Scotia. It was here at Amherst that 36 members of C Company contracted mumps and had to be left behind in quarantine for three weeks. These men did not rejoin the Battalion, which was now at Whitley Camp near Shorncliffe, Kent, but were sent instead to Bramshott and from there most were drafted to the 31st and 50th Battalions in France. The 187th Battalion was soon broken up and men drafted to other units including the 10th, 31st, 50th, and 49th Battalions C.E.F.

Officers of the 187th Battalion Canadian Infantry Lt. Col. Robinson, C.O., Capt. Reeves, Adj., Capt. Stanley, O.C. C Coy., Major Swanson, O.C. C Coy., Lieut. (later Major) John Barnett, C. Coy., RSM Harvey.

Regimental Colours: The Colours were purchased for the Battalion by the people of Innisfail and



Presentation of the Colours



The Innisfail Platoon

presented to it by Senator Michener (father of Gov. Gen. Michener) at the Innisfail Fairgrounds on June 16, 1916. The colours are said to have gone to England with the Battalion and when the unit was broken up, to have been deposited in Westminster Abbey for the duration of the war. After the war, Regimental Sergeant Major Harvey found them in the Red Deer Armouries and they were deposited in St. Mark's Anglican Church, Innisfail.

Roll of Honour



ROLL OF HONOR—WORLD WAR I (1914—1918)

"Their Name Liveth For Evermore"

Atkinson, G. S.	Biggs, V. Z.
Baker, F.	Black, N.
Banner, R.	Black, W. B.
Barwis, S.	Brewer, W.
Baynham, J. A.	Bryan, G.
Beckett, G.	Campbell, D. A.
Bell, J.	Checkley, E. A.
Benton, R. A.	Cummings, A. E.

Ellis, L. M.	Marshall, J. M.
Forshaw, A. E.	McAllister, A.
Foster, J. L.	McAllister, R. S.
George, D. St. C.	McArthur, C. A.
Gowan, W.	Michiel, F.
Grimes, R.	Miller, O.
Gulliver, A.	Nicholson, A.
Hall, A.	Peters, G. E.
Hill, G.	Quantz, D.
Hodge, C. F.	Rodgers, W.
Hooten, W.	Screen, H.
Hornett, O. E.	Sim, M.
Jensen, F.	Smallwood, J. C.
Kelly, E. H.	Snider, J.
Kirkham, J.	Songhurst, S.
Lee, J.	Swick, A.
Mainwaring, L.	Swick, C.
Malcolm, F. J.	Walker, J. H.
Marsden, B.	Whetham, P. G.
	Wormald, J. W.

ROLL OF HONOR—WORLD WAR II

(1939—1945)

Anderson, A. A.	Lennox, A.
Ball, Don	Lind, M. G.
Bateman, J.	MacLeod, T.
Black, R.	McCaw, W.
Brown, F.	Miller, L. A.
Cameron, D.	Morton, T.
Coles, B.	Norman, R.
Ditchburn, K.	Pool, W.
Freeman, J. E.	Quartly, G.
Gilliland, N.	Scott, P.
Gislason, N.	Simpson, J.
Grant, W.	Spankie, E.
Henderson, H.	Steadman, D.
Hileman, E.	Stiles, A.
Hudson, R. D.	Thompson, J. W.
Jensen, A.	

"Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends."

TAKEN FROM THE R.C.M.P. REPORT ON INNISFAIL, ALBERTA

In 1892 the Fort Saskatchewan district was in a flourishing condition as settlers poured into the area from England, all parts of Canada, and the United States, besides a considerable number from France, Germany and Sweden.

In response to the increase in settlement a N.W.M.P. detachment, consisting of one constable, was opened in the Fall of 1892 at Innisfail, which is described by the N.W.M.P. Annual Report (1892) as "a fast-increasing little town". The N.W.M.P. rendered every assistance in its power to the newcomers, supplying transport, cooking utensils and also giving useful advice and information.

A N.W.M.P. patrol visited Innisfail to check on conditions with the settlers.

1892 was a good year for crops. No prairie fires of any consequence occurred. In 1893, an agricultural exhibition was held at Innisfail. Besides the usual

agricultural exhibition a spring show of stallions and bulls was held at Innisfail in 1894.

Two creameries were in operation in the Fort Saskatchewan district, one situated at Poplar Lake near Edmonton and the other at Innisfail. These industries proved a great boon to the farmers in the localities in which they were situated.

In 1896 a most disastrous fire occurred at Innisfail burning from October 1-5, origin unknown. It burned over Townships 34-36, Ranges 23-27, an estimated area of 250,000 acres, burning 800 tons of hay, 20 head of cattle, 75 head of horses and about 10 miles of fencing. The cattle and horses burned, nearly all went blind and being badly scorched they were mostly all destroyed by their owners.

Fires were started by sparks from the engine of a train on the C. & E. railway on the 2nd and 5th of October, 1896.



Sgt. Len Grant, in charge of the Innisfail Detachment, R.C.M.P., 1973. Photo courtesy of the Innisfail Province.

In the following districts individual cases of "Lumpy Jaw" were found in 1897, viz.: Innisfail, Lacombe, Wetaskiwin, South Edmonton and surrounding locality. In each case the disease if in advanced state, caused the animal to be destroyed.

On October 1, 1900, Innisfail detachment was transferred from the jurisdiction of "G" Division Fort Saskatchewan, to "E" Division, Calgary.

One case of smallpox was discovered at Innisfail on August 18, 1900. A corporal and three men were sent out from Calgary for quarantine duty. It was thought that the infection was brought from the U.S. by the wife of the patient. Quarantine was raised on Sept. 22, no fresh cases having developed. In 1904 a number of people were quarantined with smallpox at Markerville, near Innisfail.

In 1905 Innisfail, with a population of 600, was described as a growing town.

In 1906 a young man, a recent immigrant from the U.S. was furnished by his aged parents with about \$500. and was sent into Alberta to make a home for them. He went through the form of taking up a



Non-commissioned Officers N.W.M.P. Fort Walsh, 1878. Back row: L. to R. Sgt. Piercy, S. Sgt. Dunne, S. Sgt. Hartier, Sgt. Douglas, Sgt. McDonald, S. Sgt. Ferland, Sgt. Gill, Sgt. Giveen; seated, middle row: Saddle Major Horner, Sgt. Maj. Lake, Sgt. Maj. Francis, S. Sgt. Norman. Front row: Sgt. Colvin, Sgt. Bradley, Sgt. Maj. Jim Barwis. (Sgt. Barwis later settled in Innisfail.)

homestead near Innisfail, but apparently squandered the money. Furthermore, he appeared to have fallen into bad company for he stole 6 horses and carried them off to the neighborhood of his place. He also picked up a \$200. colt on the prairie in the north, brought her southwards and sold her for \$75. His case was awaiting trial in 1906.

On March 1, 1917 due to the exigencies of the war, the Alberta Provincial Police was formed and assumed control of the ordinary enforcement of law and order in the Province. The Majority of the R.N.W.M. Police detachments in the province, including Innisfail detachment were closed, although the Force continued to enforce all federal laws. In 1932 the R.C.M. Police absorbed the A.P.P. and the detachment at Innisfail was reopened under "K" Division, Alberta, with one Constable stationed at the town.

Early Force members in Innisfail were: Cst. Hetherington, Cst. Shoebottom, Cst. Rogers, and Cpl. Angerman. The first member in charge in April, 1932 was Cst. G.W. Ball. Those following him were: Cst. D.W. Pattie (1933), Cpl L. Broadway (1945), Cpl A. Lynas (1945), A/Cpl J.R. Moffat (1947), Cpl D.R. Duff (1954), Cst. A.H. Haas (1958), Cpl F.W. Trehearne (1961), Cpl H.J. Russell (1964), Cst. R. Galliford (1964), 2/Cst. S.E. Douglas (1964), Sgt. J.M. Roy (1970) and Sgt. L.W. Grant (1972).

FIRSTS' IN INNISFAIL

First called Poplar Grove
First Elevator — A.P. (Hector McFadyen)
First Newspaper — Free Lance — S.P. Fream
First shipper of Produce — G.W. West
First Presbyterian Church 1892

First Druggist — John Field
First lights — 1911
First Choir Leader — Fred Rogers
First Doctor — Dr. George 1892
First Livery — 1892 W.H. Kemp
First Dressmaker — 1892 Miss Still
First teacher 1891 Miss Short
First Harness Maker 1892 Jack Smith
First white woman — Mrs. D. Sinclair
First section foreman 1891 Jim Smith
First Auctioneer — 1892 Phil Boucher
First Store — G.W. West, 1891
First Anglican Church — 1892
First Train C & E 1891
First M.L.A. — J.A. Simpson
First Creamery — 1894
First Bank — Union Bank
First Machine Agent — 1908 P.L. Grasse
First Barber — 1902 — John Bear
First Lawyer — Mr. Watson
First Undertaker — Dobson Bros.
First Butcher — D.B. Dickson 1893
First Post Office — 1892 with N. Stiles
First car — 1909 Geo. Lundry
First Lumber Yard 1892 J.A. Simpson
First M.P. F.D. Shaw
First Photographer — 1892 — W. Playle
First Mayor S.J. Curry
First Dentist 1904 — Dr. Carter
First hospital matron — Miss Logan
First Veterinarian Dr. J.D. Lauder
First Blacksmith — 1891 Jack Wilson
First Hotel — Murray Hotel 1891
First sidewalks — 1906
First Fire Chief 1911 Billy Wilson

First Station Agent — 1891 J. Duff

First Fire Hall erected 1906

First Ag. Society formed in 1892

MAYORS OF INNISFAIL

1903-04	S.J. Curry
1904-05	J. Stewart
1905	S.J. Curry
1905-06	J.E. Fawdry
1906-07	S.L. Constantine
1907-08	George Geary
1908-09	A.B. McRae
1909-10	A.B. McRae
1910	S.J. Curry
1911-12	G.W. West
1913-14	L.M. McLean
1915-16	J.A. Simpson
1916-17	S. Dickson
1918-19	G.E. Bryan
1920-21	W.C.A. Watt
1922-26	F.M. Oldham
1926-28	R.J. McMahan
1928-45	S.A. Fox
1945-48	W.H. Jackson
1948-50	R.H. Percy
1950-52	F.O. West
1952-58	J.K. Rimington
1958-60	O. Lundgren
1960-62	L.F. Kirkham
1962-64	J.D. Stiles
1964-64	S.V. Fox (Feb. to Oct.)
1964-65	R.D. Humphreys
1965 to present	L.J. Llewellyn

DIRECTORY OF INNISFAIL in about 1906 by Frank West.

Bamsey & Company — horseshoers and practical blacksmith

Fairleys — fancy dry goods and groceries, boots & shoes

Fawdry & Rogers — general merchants — herbagenum and stock foods

P. Flanagan — Innisfairs only shoemaker

W. Geary — Drug Store, seeds and school supplies

Gilmore & Pitts — tailors

Gunston & Wilson — horse dealers

P.T. Goulter — Hardware

W. Lundy — Butcher

Rossland House — Temperance Hotel — George Powers

Royal Hotel — McCallum & Harbison

A.B. McCrea — Hand made harness and stock saddles

W. Playle — Photographs, fancy jewellery

H.J. Saturley — Farm Implements and machinery — McCallum & Thorne

R.C. Smith — tinsmith — furnace repairs

G.W. West — Staples Lumber Co.

Jessie Stewart — fancy groceries, dry goods, flour and feed

N. Stiles — fruit, confectionery, tobacco

G.W. West — only full department store

W.G. Wilson — drayman

T. White — Baker

According to the Free Lance Newspaper in 1903 (Vol 2 - No. 51) the following businesses were active in Innisfail:

Wm Geary — Druggist and Stationer

Miss Simpson — Druggist and Stationer

Percy Goulter — Innisfail Hardware Co.

Curry Bros — Clothing

H. McDermott — jeweller

G.W. West — General Merchant

Canadian Bank of Commerce — mgr. R.A. Rumsey

Innisfail Transfer Co. — W.G. Wilson

Barrister & Notary Public — A.A. Carpenter

Innisfail Bakery — Wm Elliott

Dr. G.G. Membrey — former Colonial Surgeon HMS Gold Coast, Africa.

Fawdry & Rogers — General Merchants

Jessie Stewart — The Cash Store

Archer & Simpson — Innisfail Lumber Yard

P.L. Grasse — appraiser

W. Playle — Photographer

Fire Insurance — Maley & Onsum

Union Bank — W.R. Wilson Mgr.

Barrister — F.M. Oldham

Hotel Alberta — G.T. Lundy

Coroner for N.W.T. — Dr. H. George

THOMAS & MARGARET ABRAHAM by Irvine Abraham

My dad and mother, Thomas and Margaret Abraham, came to Innisfail about August 1902 from Stratford, Ontario, where they were married on July 10, 1902. My Dad was born in Council Bluff, Iowa, U.S.A. while his parents were visiting for a short time. They were soon back in Ontario. He was born July 20, 1879. They came to Innisfail because my mother's cousin, Sim Thom, was the C.P.R. station agent. He was the father of Clayton Thom, the C.P.R. agent of recent years. They travelled here by train.

My dad filed on his homestead NW24-35-2-5 and went back to Ontario and purchased a car load of horses, cattle and machinery and furniture and arrived here in October. The late Ted Robinson very kindly gave my parents the use of a house and barn to live in the first winter. My dad cut logs and moved them to a mill on the Little Red Deer River west of town to be sawed and built a house in 1903. He was a carpenter on the large barns that were built in Ontario at that time.

The most tragic story was the drowning on a Sunday afternoon, August 1914, of Donald and Alan Baker and Peggy Clydesdale, brothers and a niece of Mrs. John Bird.

Many of the people in the Oklahoma district hauled stove wood to Innisfail to trade for groceries and clothes. Many built roads using a team of horses on a slip or scraper. They also used a walking plow and built grades with the cut sod.

I married a Bowden girl in 1929; Christina Elizabeth Bannerman. We had eleven children, seven boys and four girls; two are deceased. My brother Charles Abraham married Gertrude Scott, daughter of Jack Scott, a well known and loved pioneer of Ridgewood district. My brother Malcolm married

Blossom Brower of Zella school district west of Didsbury.

Some of the first neighbors were: Mr. & Mrs. John Bird; Mr. & Mrs. James Lewis; Mr. & Mrs. Johnson Campbell; Mr. & Mrs. Jackson Newsham; Mr. & Mrs. David Laird; Mr. & Mrs. W.G. Kelly; Spears; Ptolomeys — Miss Ptolomey was my first teacher. I remember another teacher, Miss Shanklin, could really lay on the strap. The Oklahoma school was built in 1903 and used until 1948 when we built a new one which is now our community hall.

My Dad enlisted in the 187th Batt. and was transferred to the 50th in England. He was in France and Belgium for 23 months, and was beside Virgil Biggs when he was killed.

There was a picnic in Oklahoma every year for many years. I remember dances at the school and the arithmetic matches which Mr. W.G. Kelly usually won.



I was in school until grade eight. In my class were David Laird, Mary Laird, Bill Robertson, and Mary Campbell. When it was time for spelling match, Mary Campbell and I were alternate winners.

We were members of the Innisfail Agricultural Society. We showed driving horses and cattle at Innisfail and also at the Bowden Fair. The Pixleys were our competition in light horses. I remember seeing Milton Oxtoby at a Fair about 1918 driving a Dodge car.

Early people of Innisfail I remember: Andrew Lennox, tinsmith; G.W. West, general store; Hodge & Sons, general store; J.F. Fumerton, groceries; Kemp livery barn; Wilson dray; Alex Munro, Fleet Kirkham, Bob Sharpe, barbers; Dillingham, Innisfail Province; W.C.A. Watt, Imperial Oil; L.M. McLean, B.A.O. and real estate; Charlie Whitcomb, feedshed, stalls for horses and rooming house; Mrs. Minnie Dallas, cafe; Crabapple Joe and Yee Come, Chinese cafe; J.T. Rogers, hardware and John Deere machinery; Jack Wilson, blacksmith; Ed Russel,

threshing machine operator; Sandy Dundas, hotel owner; Dr. George, who built the big brick house north of the tracks; F.W. Bye, for many years C.P.R. agent.

My mother passed away on Sept. 18, 1914 and my Dad on Mar. 25, 1951. They are buried in Innisfail cemetery.

CHARLES ADISON ALDEN by Charles Conrad Alden

Charles Adison Alden, my father, was born in Conway, Mass. December 3, 1869. However, he came from Alden, Iowa to Innisfail. The town of Alden was established by the grandfather of Charles Adison Alden; namely Henry Alden, a direct descendant of John and Priscilla Alden, who reached America in the Mayflower and the romance of whose lives has been kept in verse by the poet Longellow in "The Courtship of Miles Standish".

Father came to homestead West of Innisfail (1903) after spending three years in the Philippines as a member of Company B of the 17th U.S. Infantry in the Spanish American War. At the time of his discharge, June 8, 1902, due to ill health he held the rank of Sgt. Most of his soldiering was in Luzon or Mindanao, the two largest of the Philippine group of islands. It was the living conditions in these islands that gave him this medical discharge. Prior to serving in the Spanish-American War he had worked in his brother's (Will) meat market in Alden.

When he arrived in Innisfail, he homesteaded west of Innisfail in the Tindastol District. Then later in 1918, he sold the farm and took up residence in the town of Innisfail itself. He became a cattle and hog buyer for various meat packing firms. When he moved from the homestead to town, he rented the Freddie Rogers house and then bought the Chute house in 1929 where he resided until his death.

Charles Adison Alden married Margaret Louella Eagle on July 16, 1904 at Innisfail. She came from Iowa Falls, Iowa, U.S.A. in 1904. They had five children: John Alden — born May 16, 1905 — deceased March 9, 1955. He married Constance Walker of Raven in 1936. Constance passed away September 26, 1942. Both are interred at Innisfail Cemetery. Charles Conrad Alden — born July 21, 1906 — married Elenor Coughlin in Edmonton in 1938. They are now residing in Didsbury Alberta and have three children: Karlene, Joan and Catherine. Ella Margaret Alden — born September 26, 1908. Deceased, 1973, interred at Innisfail Cemetery — married Philip Louis Andrews in 1932. Mr. Andrews still residing in Didsbury. They had two children: Anita and Donald. Alice Leora Alden — born August 28, 1910. Deceased November 1952. — married Fred Dobirstein in 1931. Fred passed away before Alice. Both are interred in Lacombe cemetery. They had six children — Pauline, Charles, Fred, John, Alice and Alvin. Eva May Alden — born March 6, 1913. — married July 1, 1939 to Herbert Edmund Stiles of Innisfail. They reside in Didsbury, Alberta and have one child Beverly.

On the homestead some of the neighbours at that time were S. Cox, W. Sucee, J. Gingrich, Giles, W. Brown. In town the first neighbours were Mr. & Mrs. George Morrison, Mr. & Mrs. Stewart Moore and "Doc" Holmes.

There was more snow in those days than now. I remember one winter there was so much snow that father had to lead the children to school through the woods, he would be wearing hip waders to make a path for the children.

Recreation consisted of playing cards in the family....almost every evening. Also there was baseball with family and friends. We enjoyed reading, and Father was an avid sportsman, went swimming in Mud Lake and skating on Dodd's Lake.

The children of Charles Adison Alden attended school at Big Bend, Tindastol and later in the Innisfail Public and High Schools.

Interrment of Charles Adison Alden is in the Innisfail Cemetery. (deceased September 11, 1937) Interrment of Margaret Louella Eagle Alden is in the Innisfail Cemetery. Deceased May 31, 1951.

WILLIAM HENRY ALDEN by Nellie (Alden) Bateman

The first of our family to come to Canada was my father — William Henry Alden. We were living in the town of Alden in Iowa at that time. The town was founded by his grandfather and given the name. Father was born April 8, 1864 in Conway, Mass and went to Iowa with his parents when he was about six years old. His father had a meat market and when he died, Father who was seventeen years of age, took over the business as the man of the family. He added a very successful ice storage business.

In 1901 the C.P.R. was advertising "cheap land for sale" all through the northern states and Father became restless and went on an excursion to Alberta to see what it looked like. He bought a half section from the C.P.R. in the Big Bend district near Innisfail for \$3.00 an acre. The next Spring, April 1902 we (Dad, Mother and three children) moved to Innisfail. Our settlers effects including a pair of Morgan horses and thirty chickens came on a freight train. We came by train that had a sleeping car and diner. When we arrived at Innisfail we found the bridge across the Red Deer River was completed (1902) and the approaches were just being graded, so we were among the first to cross over. We stayed at the Alberta Hotel (Lundy's) a few weeks while a house was being built on our farm. The house is still standing. We found we had wonderful neighbors of so many different nationalities. The nearest, were Icelanders from the Markerville settlement.

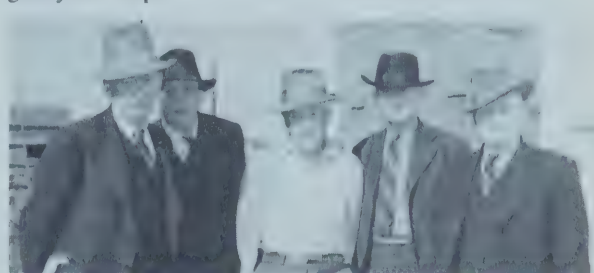
One incident illustrates the well known resentment of the first ranchers for the farmers. The second summer we were on the farm, Father and his brother Charles, built a three stand barb-wire fence around our half section — the neighbours had just fenced small fields or yards. One neighbor had a small herd of horses running wild and one dark, stormy night they ran into our fence and one of them got cut — not seriously — but Mr. Rancher ordered father to take

the fence down at once. Dad didn't know much about the laws of the country so he went to Innisfail to consult Mr. Oldham, a lawyer. He was told to leave the fence up. It is still there seventy years later.

The first fall we were in Canada, Uncle Charlie (Charles Adison Alden) came for the hunting season and decided to move to Alberta the next summer. My Mother (Clara) died in 1935 — my father in 1943 and a sister Nina in 1970. All are buried in the Innisfail Cemetery. I have a brother Harry, living in Didsbury and I reside in Castor, Alberta.

ANDERSON STORY by Floyd Martin

Grandfather A.D. Anderson came from Nebraska to Innisfail in 1902 to homestead. His wife Mary and children accompanied him. The children were: George, Bill, Joe, Charlie, Frank, Ed, Harry, Amanda (Mrs. Bill Martin) and Edith (Mrs. Lark Brown). Each boy took a homestead except George who returned to the U.S. My uncles used to work in the mines at Nordegg to supplement their incomes. Grandma Anderson was the best cook I have ever known and could make "POUT" for breakfast. It was a rusk treated with fresh pigs' blood and steamed and had gravy on top.



L. to R. Bill, Joe, Harry, Ed & Frank Anderson.

George (dec) became a Park Superintendent in California: Bill was a farmer at Yankee Flats, west of Innisfail until his death at 84 years: Joe farmed at Yankee Flats and milked 30 cows. He died at 83 years: Charlie was a telephone trouble shooter for many years. He married Margaret Scott and lived at Surrey, B.C.: Frank had the twin Livery Barn in Innisfail (burnt down). He married Belle Davidson who died of the flue. They had 4 boys, Cedric, Doug, Charlie and Alf who was killed overseas. Frank then married Annie Gillespi and they had 4 children: Audrey (Mrs. Chris Jensen) who lives in Big Bend: Leonard, who lives at Penhold: Betty who lives in Calgary and Ronnie who is with the D.V.A. at Rocky Mountain House. Uncle Ed married Julia Sucee and had 4 children: Ulan, Harold, Lawrence and Roy (d): Harry returned to the U.S.A. He had farmed north of Uncle Bill. Edith the youngest, is the only one living now and is 83 years old. In early days she worked for G.W. West; married Lark Brown who had an orchestra. He lived on the bank of the Medicine river. Lark was an engineer in mines at Eleexo until it shut down. They went to Oregon where they started a Saw Shop. They are now retired at Salem, Oregon.

The other Anderson daughter was my mother, Amanda (see Martin Story).

ARCHIBALD STORY by Art Bilton

Mr. Arthur Archibald came to Poplar Grove in 1892 from Woodstock, Ontario having immigrated from Scotland in 1885. In Scotland he had worked as a blacksmith and farrier, a trade which he carried on in this country.

He married Ellen Laing in a ceremony at West Oxford, Ontario March 4, 1892. The homestead they came to was north east of Innisfail. They later sold this and moved to the W-1/2 5-36-27-W4 in the Antler Hill District. Their effects were brought from Ontario by train. Mrs. Archibald (Grandma) said when they arrived here that where the Hotel is now, a young boy was floating around on a raft, fishing!

The Archibalds had four children: Joe, Florence, Wallace and Elsie. Wallace married Myrtle Larsen of Huxley and they had three children. Joe and Allan farm east of Innisfail and Eveline lives at Enchant.



L. to R.: Wallace, Joe, Mr. Archibald with Elsie, Florence, Mrs. Archibald.

Elsie (my mother) married Fred Bilton. I was their only son. When I was a child, my mother died, so the only mother, father and grandmother to me was Mrs. Archibald. My Grandmother's father, Mr. Laing, came into the house one time with a scratched hand. She asked him what had happened. He casually replied that a Bob cat had jumped out of a tree on his dog, so, he grabbed it by the scruff of the neck and pushed it away from the dog. really nothing to worry about!

Grandmother used to walk over to Syviers' (two miles) just for a visit and then walk home again. She would say "I walked fast, no sense letting grass grow under you". She had a big home and always a place everyone wanted to go. The early neighbors were Biggs, Bakers and Laings. The reason they moved to the other farm was because of a flowing spring, which is still flowing today.

I, Art, attended school at Antler Hill. I worked for Rimington, Moreau and Newman, farming at the same time. I married Shirley Lalor and we have three children Amber, Aron and Kyla.

I shall always be eternally grateful to my wonderful grandmother for the guidance she always gave me in marking the way for a good life.

DAVE ARNELL by Dolly Dougherty

Dave Arnell was born in Bruce County, Ontario, Oct. 2, 1874. In 1890 he came to visit his sister, Mrs. Jim Brown, travelling by railway to Calgary and then by team and wagon to the farm. He took a homestead two miles west of Innisfail. He had farmed with his widowed mother in Ontario, who later took a homestead near Innisfail, with a younger brother George. After farming for a few years, Dave moved into Innisfail going into the Real Estate business, which he carried on until the 1st World War, when he went overseas with the 187th Regiment. After the war, he still carried on his Auctioneer business, and he also owned and operated a Livery Stable, which burned down. (located on the land which is now Lundgren Motors). Later he was also in the Dairy and Home Rental businesses.

Dave married Mary Beggs; they had one son Tom. Mary died in 1917. Tom took his schooling in Innisfail, married Sadie Gislason, and they moved to East Coulee. Tom and Sadie are both deceased. They had three children.

After the war, Dave married Mrs. Martha Swick, a war widow, who had one son Bee. Dave had been badly wounded in France with shrapnel left in his chest, thus making him very susceptible to pneumonia. It was during one of his pneumonia spells that Martha, a nurse, was called in to 'special' him. They were married when Dave was better. They had one daughter, Dolly, now married to Ike Dougherty and residing in Calgary; (Dolly and Ike have one son, Tom.)

The winters were very cold and severe. My Dad had to go by horse and cutter to auction sales. A forty mile drive meant a two day trip. There were Stopping Houses in the country where he stayed overnight. Dave was very interested in all sports, such as hockey, curling, and baseball. But the old School Fair, and the Innisfail Stampede were at the top of the list. I recall him spending endless hours planning for these events. For many years Dave, on his old black horse leading the Stampede parade, was a familiar sight.

The thing that impressed me most, in remembering my Dad and my Mother, was their kindness to those less fortunate than themselves. I recall my Dad coming home one day very upset, because a widow with five children had just landed in town, quite destitute. It seemed they had lost everything in Saskatchewan, during the great drought, and were trying to get back to Alberta, when the husband was taken down with pneumonia, and died. Dad rushed about, and found a little house for them to live in, he gathered furniture from our place and friends. Mother went through her cupboards for dishes, etc., and they soon had them settled in a warm shelter. Then Mother went to work sewing clothes for the children; and Dad helped find a job for the oldest son.

There were many happenings of this nature all through their lives. For example, during the Depression years, we seem to always have extra



Dave Arnell with Margaret Brown.

people staying at our house who were unemployed, and needed help. When the men were riding the freight trains looking for work, it was not uncommon for Mother to give lunches to as many as four men in a day. The boys were hungry, and Dad believed we must not turn anyone away. He used to say, "I would hate to have anyone turn my kids away if they were hungry."

When I was a very small child, I can often remember being awakened by the cry of a new-born baby. It was coming from the bedroom next to mine, where my Mother had been up all night nursing the expectant mother. She used to take care of many maternity cases at the peoples' homes or her own.

Then there was the dairy business. Everything was done the hard way. Hand milking, then the milk was all bottled by hand, and the cream separated by the old crank separator. Many times during the hard times, the milk was exchanged for labor, where families did not have the cash. Then, too, every morning a certain portion of the milk was separated, and there would be two large pails of skim milk. This was given away to anyone who needed it, and believe me, there was very little wasted.

Dave belonged to the Orange Lodge in the early days and was an active member of the Legion. He died July 26, 1936 and was buried in Innisfail. Mrs. Arnell lived in Innisfail until 1945, when she moved to Calgary, where she passed away in 1971. Bee Swick took his schooling in Innisfail. He married and had 7 children. He served in the Air Force in the second war. He is deceased, and his widow Audrey presently is residing in Summerland, B.C.

JOHN AND HELEN ARROWSMITH by Mrs. Vic Paulsen

Mr. Arrowsmith came to the Innisfail district in 1901 to decide whether to settle. After seeing the area, he sent to Minnesota for his wife, Helen, and his children, Phyllis, Clive and Sybil. Also his sisters-in-law, Cecilia and Margaret Marsh and his father-in-law, George Marsh. After their arrival he returned to

Minnesota for their possessions. His friend, Fred Ward, brought one carload of settlers effects for them and John Arrowsmith brought one carload.

For some years he farmed in conjunction with Mr. Marsh, then he and his family moved back to England where the children were educated.

In 1929, they returned to Knee Hill Valley and spent the summer with Jim and May Scott, (Mrs. Arrowsmith's sister-in-law). Accompanying the Arrowsmiths this time was Clive's wife, Alice (nee Knowles) and their infant daughter Rosemary.

At this time they purchased land in the Huxley area and moved there. During the 1930's part of the Arrowsmith family spent summers at their farm at Huxley and the winters in Vancouver or Vancouver Island.

Alice Arrowsmith often talked of riding in the back seat of the car with some of their household effects and two small daughters, Rosemary and Jill. She also told of how she entertained the local W.I. ladies in her one room home with a lace tablecloth, fine English bone china, silver tea service on a poplar pole table with orange boxes for chairs.

During the 1930's, the Arrowsmiths decided to settle in Vancouver. Clive and Alice now live on North Pender Island and Phyllis Paulsen (nee Arrowsmith) lives in Cranbrook, B.C.



John Arrowsmith Family taken before leaving for Innisfail: John, (maid), Clive, Sybil, and Phyllis.

ARTHUR ASH by Mrs. Lester Cox (Annie Ash)

Dad was born in Southsea, England in 1880. After spending his younger years in Bombay, India, where his father was a master shipbuilder, he came to Canada with his parents. Arthur Ash, accompanied by his wife Eva and two young daughters, Annie and Jean, left their ranch located south east of Blackfalds and journeyed by train to Innisfail arriving during the summer of 1913, with the objective of finding schooling for me. After having ranched for a few years, Arthur had also decided to put his training as a violinist to use and subsequently taught the violin to pupils in both Red Deer and Innisfail.

Mother's maiden name was Eva Makepeace. The Makepeace family had also emigrated to Canada from England, making their home near Lacombe, Alberta. Mother was born in Manchester, England in 1884.

A third daughter Elizabeth (Betty) was born during the time the family lived in Innisfail. Jean now lives in Nanaimo, B.C. (Mrs. Gerard Hinde), and Betty and I (Annie) live in Calgary.

The earliest neighbors I recall were Dr. & Mrs. Paisley (a veterinarian), Mr. & Mrs. William Corish, and the William Wade family. Mother used to tell the story of Mrs. Paisley's desire to adopt my sister Jean, and mother had quite a time persuading her she had no desire to part with one of her children.



Mrs. Ash, Jan, Annie, Mr. A. R. W. Ash.

After a move to another house our closest neighbors were the Dora & Stewart Moore family, the Oscar Watt family, the Alden family and the Ed Chute family.

One of my earliest remembrances is of mother and myself holding bed pillows against our living room windows to prevent the hail stones from doing too much damage. I also recollect what were, to me at least, frightening electric storms.

Innisfail was a good town in which to grow up. Long warm afternoons in the summer saw us and our chums taking walks almost daily to Mud Lake. Fortified with a paper bag of sandwiches, we had in mind rides on the lake in very leaky rowboats. That some of us could not swim seemed to bother us not a bit. Summer evenings saw us engaging in such games as

"Run Sheep Run" and in treasure hunts. In the winter we skated after school on Dodd's Lake, and also built snow houses many feet high in the back lane.

We attended the old red brick school on what was then the eastern edge of the town. My first teacher was a Miss Graves, and others were Miss Fair, Miss Blenkhorn, Miss Helen Brown, Miss E. Lawrence, Mr. O'Mara, and Mr. A.A. Reeves. Schools mates were Edythe Chute, Edna Dallas, Joy and Etta Percy, Bertha McLean, Elva Clifford, Helen Simpson, Maria and Doris Nichol, Connie Shenfield, Phyllis and Mable Wade, to name a few.

I think my earliest recollection of a pioneer was Mr. Oldham. He used to draw fascinating pictures of pigs which delighted me. He also sold milk and it was the daily duty of my sister Jean and myself to set out with a lard pail each day to get the milk. This was not always a pleasure and sometimes even a disaster. The latter could be attributed to two hazards harbored by Mr. Oldham; an unfriendly hissing gander and a busy little black and white dog. The gander would 'go' for me while the dog would scare Jean out of her wits. Needless to say the day's milk supply did not always arrive home.

Although our stay in Innisfail was relatively brief (eleven years) we look back on those days of our childhood as some of our happiest. Betty worked as a stenographer with the Provincial Government; Jean was cashier and store employee; and I spent many years as a school teacher and later principal in the Calgary Public School system. Our parents are now deceased — Mother in 1961, Dad in 1967; both are buried in Calgary their home city for many years after leaving Innisfail.

THE ASHMORE FAMILY by J.C.F. Jack Ashmore

Camm Fielder (Trot) Ashmore, was born February 22, 1864 in the County of Surrey, England. He came to Canada, accompanied by his only sister and brother-in-law, Mr. & Mrs. Richard Thompson in the late summer of 1892. They had traveled by steamer to Halifax and overland via railway, arriving in Innisfail in the early fall of the same year. Father filed on a homestead and settled in the Horseshoe Lake district.

My Dad (Trot) had just completed five years service in the British Army. No doubt the lure of a new land with a new found freedom, the adventure of the Frontier, with the possibility of owning land, were some of the reasons for making the shift.

A team of horses was purchased as he filed on the homestead. Not really knowing what type of horse to get, it was soon apparent that these horses were sort of cold shouldered, or in other words, damn balky. Because good sized trees were available on the homestead, his project was to get enough logs to build a shelter.

Being an unknown in an unknown land, he would no doubt be termed a "green Englishman", or a "Bloody limey" by the few veterans of the frontier. It took some time for him to get used to swinging an axe, and making the timber ready for the building. He

was jolted into the realization one dreary morning that the north west blizzard had moved in and the much needed shelter was still in the preliminary stages. But being a determined and somewhat bull headed Englishman he moved his camp into the semi shelter of the thickest grove of trees and no doubt brewed a pot of tea that no doubt would straighten the curl in the horns of a Texas steer. As the storm blew itself out he decided it might be a good plan to skid what logs he had cut out on the newly fallen snow (not knowing the snow was there to stay). He hooked the first log with the team and found that the snow hadn't improved the situation. He then remembered in his luggage there might be a pair of British Calvery spurs. He dug them out. He unhitched the team, hooked one horse to one of the biggest logs, strapped the spurs to his boots and climbed aboard. He applied the spurs and it was here that he encountered his first experience on the back of a bucking bronco. Due to the weight of the log, and hanging onto the hames for dear life, he managed to stay aboard. He finally got to the building site on the run. In this manner he skidded out enough logs to build four walls four feet high. As winter was settling in, he decided to put the roof on and dig down four feet inside to gain head room.

Shortly after Dads arrival, his mother, father (Mr. and Mrs. Camm F. Ashmore) arrived in Innisfail from England. Being of secure financial background they more or less resided in town. Camm Ashmore Sr. passed away in 1899. In 1904 Mary Elizabeth Cullen, at the age of 20 years, arrived in the Innisfail district from Liverpool, England. She was employed as a house maid for Mrs. Ashmore Sr.

June 17th, 1904, Camm Fielder (Trot) Ashmore and Mary Elizabeth Cullen were united in marriage in the Catholic rectory, as the Catholic church was being built. Rev. Father Voisen, early French, missionary priest, performed the ceremony. Six children were born to this union. (Shortly after they were married, Dad sold the homestead and moved with Mother to the Knee Hill Valley district. It was here that Dad resumed farming and persevered the raising of hard spring wheat.

I recall Dad always referring to the winter of 1906. That was the year I was born. Dad, Mom and cousin Clem Thompson were on the Bliss Constantine homestead in Knee Hill as the winter set in. Dad had a small herd of cattle. It went to 60° below nearing Christmas. Dad moved Mother and I into a boarding house in Innisfail. His feed pile dwindled, he hauled feed from several miles distant by horse drawn sleighs. He related that sometimes the cattle would meet him two miles from the barnyard because of their hunger and being so cold. The cattle survived reasonably well, but the green grass started to show through and "black leg" hit and wiped the whole herd out.

Being Catholic, Dad, Mother and I would make the long trip into Innisfail to attend Mass held the first Sunday in each month (by the parish priest from Red Deer). We would leave home in the darkness and

drive the 18 or so miles by team and sleigh in the winter and buckboard and team in the summer.

Joe and Mike Thompson also served at the Altar during mass. As I warmed up, (from being so cold on the trip in), I became drowsy and would start to nod. One of those times, Mike, who was next to me, kicked me on the shin so hard, I let a yell out of me, much to the embarrassment of Mother and others in the congregation . . . and brought the wrath of hell down on my head from the Good Father, needless to say my services as Altar boy were suspended for the time being.

In summer I remember the road through the big bush. There could be teams mired belly deep and stuck with only the running gear of a wagon behind them. Dad often carried a stock saddle in the back of the buck board. Sometimes it would be necessary to unhitch the team, remove the harness from one and put on the saddle, dallying one end of the lariat rope to the end of the buggy tongue and a wrap around the saddle horn, then pull the rig through the mud. The highlight for me on such a trip would be Dad putting the team in the livery barn. After Mass we would eat at the New York Cafe. I always ordered pork sausage and raisin pie. After Mass, we would head back to the farm.

Survival must have been the main achievement for all in those early years. Later the raising of prize wheat, shown at the Provincial seed fair, and prize winning horses at the Innisfail fair. There was the bringing of the first gas powered traction engines (weighing some 7 tons).

Recreation was a trip to Pine Lake or the Milner-ton fair. The Innisfail fair and country picnics where horseracing, foot racing was going on was very much looked forward to. Skating parties on frozen ponds in winter along with house parties and dancing were great events.

The dollar was a scarce article. The first dollar I remember seeing was on a collection plate at church. I found out what it was when I asked Mother.

Before the first War, Dad would hire out to break up the virgin prairie for new settlers. In 1915, Dad bought a steel brush breaking plow to be pulled with his gas powered traction engine. This plow would slice through stumps one foot in diameter. The idea was the stumps and trash would be buried deep enough that the stumps would rot before the ground would be cultivated to that depth again. The first job was for Billy Kemp. The deal was for \$25. each acre (an unheard of amount in those days). As the work began it was found that it took a large amount of power to pull this plow through. He did get ten acres plowed. Dad sold this plow to Frank Delaire.

C.F. (Trot) Ashmore joined the 89th Battalion C.E.F. in March of 1916. He went overseas serving in France. In 1919 he returned to Canada with an honorable discharge. Jack Ashmore along with brothers Bill, Ted and Joe served in the armed forces from 1940 to 1946. Bill served in the Suicide Service (Merchant Navy) and lost his life and is buried in the Military Cemetery in Liverpool.

I started school at Easter time in 1915 at Calder. It was four and one half miles from our place to school. On days I attended I walked, so needless to say I did not attend too regularly. Miss McLaughlin was the teacher and slugged it out with some 20 other knot heads, much like myself, all the way from seven years to 18 yrs. She did the janitor work too. There were Fergusons, Hibberts, Thurstons, Sarchatts, Foresters, Snyders, Kirkhams and Whithams going to school. It was here that I saw my first game of baseball played with a tightly bound rag and a string ball. A bat was fashioned out of a reel arm of a Massey Harris binder. There was one ragged catchers mit (without padding). I attended this school for about three weeks during the spring of 1916. Dad then moved the family into Innisfail as he prepared to go overseas. Our town neighbors were: Benton, Camerons, Coles, Andersons, Millers and Staggs. The school was crowded so I had to wait until after the summer recess to start. In the meantime, I was farmed out to Cecil Sarchatt — the guy who had married the teacher at Calder school. I had just turned 10 yrs. old. Bill Stagg (14 yrs.) and I hired out to work in the hay fields, for \$5.00 per month. I stayed until the first of September because I didn't know which way was home. Word was sent out that I should catch the mail stage and return home for school. Whit Gunston was the stage driver.

I recall 1916 was so wet and we were having a tough going through the big bush and by Marshalls. Horses were floundering in and out of mud holes. Rigs coming from the opposite direction with soldiers in them (these boys had been released to assist in the harvest). They helped push us out of a mud hole close to Bill Centers place.

Along with sister Mary and brother Bill, I attended school in Innisfail. The next two summers at the Jim Scarlett farm in Little Red Deer district. I remember the great flu epidemic when the schools were closed and the Innisfail school was used as a hospital. We all had to wear gauze mouth pieces with camphor in them when in public places. Many died and it seemed like the hearse was going every day. My teachers in Innisfail were Miss Leslie, Miss Moore and Miss Roberts.

In the spring of 1919, our family moved to Red Deer.

Camm F. Ashmore, father of Trot was born in 1830 in England and came to Innisfail in 1894. He died in 1899 and is laid to rest in the Innisfail Cemetery. Mrs. Camm F. Ashmore was born in 1833 in England. She passed away in 1919 and is at rest in a Catholic Cemetery out of Red Deer.

C.F. Trot Ashmore passed away May 14, 1936 and is at rest at St. Mary's Cemetery in Calgary.

Mary Elizabeth Cullen Ashmore died at the age of 85 (1969) and is buried by her husband.

There were six children: John C.F. (me) born July 1, 1906 at Knee Hill Valley. I married Mary M. Martin in 1934 and we reside in Warner. Mary Julianna Sarah Ashmore was born in 1909 at Knee Hill Valley. She married Sidney Bearchell in 1927 and

resides at New Westminster. William Felix Ashmore was born Feb. 11, 1911 at Knee Hill Valley. Edward Brian Ashmore was born May 13, 1919 in Innisfail. He is single and lives in Edmonton. Joseph Patrick Ashmore was born Jan. 6, 1922 in Red Deer. He married Ann Bricker and they live at Forest Lawn. Monica Ashmore married Ray Honeychurch and resides in Calgary.

ATKINSON STORY by LENA MUNRO

George Henry Atkinson was united in marriage to Agnes Minerva Gower April 7, 1896. They came west by train on their honeymoon and were met by Moses Wildman. He took them to his place (across the road from James Scarlett). Mrs. Moses Wildman and George Atkinsons' mother were half sisters.

Agnes Minerva Gower was born in Aurora, Ontario Oct. 12, 1877. George Henry Atkinson was born in New Market, Ont., Nov. 11, 1876. On their trip from Calgary to Innisfail they remarked that the track was still spongy and water splashed up between the cars.

Upon their arrival here they first worked for James Scarlett (son-in-law of Moses Wildman). Homesteads were easily obtained and they took a 1/4 section. Together they had made enough to purchase the necessities for their log shack — (which had a sod roof and no floor) for a year or two. Working for James Scarlett, they were able to buy the lumber for a floor. They raised a few cattle as funds became available.

My father took on the job of hauling the first cream south of Red Deer River (making two trips a week by wagon), for the Innisfail Butter & Cheese Mfg. Co. Ltd. It was nothing unusual to fish a dead mouse out of the cream. There were samples taken of each customers cream and they were kept and tested. The different lots of cream were all dumped into one large can that could hold about 25 gallons — A tight lid was put on. On one trip Mrs. Hugh Ross helped load the cream and on the next trip she asked me into the house to see what she had. It was a 14 pound boy who had arrived between trips and this was Harry Ross.

There were many times when food wasn't plentiful even with the wild game and berries and several times we had porridge twice a day.

To this union there were twelve children born (8 girls and 4 boys). — Sarah Ann born Oct. 17, 1897, married Mundi Bjarnason. They had 4 sons. She died March 1, 1936. Elsa Maud born Dec. 25, 1899 - married Paul Kellar. They had 2 daughters and 4 sons. She married Gilbert Hocken in 1962. She died in 1969. Mary Selena born March 15, 1902. Married Clarence Arthur Munro in 1919. We have 3 daughters: Edna Lena (Mrs. Percy Dolan) born April 2, 1924. Widowed at 37 yrs. and married Sigmond Albrecht. Leona Minerva (Mrs. Glenn Peterson) born Feb. 28, 1935. They have 2 daughters and one son. Doris Pearl (Mrs. Carl Holt) born April 5, 1937. They have one son and one daughter.

Vera Elizabeth born Feb. 14, 1904 married John Berchel in 1920. They have one daughter and 3 sons.

George Albert Atkinson born June 5, 1905. Married Carolyn Goodmundson in 1936. He died in 1970. They have 2 daughters and one son. Edward LaBurn born July 27, 1907 married Seena Thorsen. They have 6 daughters. Eva May born Sept. 3, 1909 married Armand Johansson in 1926. They have 3 daughters and 4 sons. She died in June, 1959. Agnes Minerva born April 9, 1912 married Barney Bjarnason in 1930. They have 2 daughters. Joseph William born April 10, 1915. single - died Dec. 2, 1958. He served in W.W. 11. Earnest Roy born July 24, 1917 Married Marjorie Krause in 1946. They have 3 daughters. Iris Doris born May 12, 1920. Married Ernest Godeki. They have 2 daughters. Lillian Violet born July 11, 1922 married Alfred Watson and they had one daughter and one son. All Agnes and George Atkinsons' family were born at home but Doris who was born in the hospital. Sometimes a doctor was present but mostly just a neighbor woman.

Some of the first neighbors were Scotts', John & Jim Brown, David Sinclairs', Scarletts', Wildmans', Testers', Forresters', Duncans', Wrights', McCormacks', & Levics'.



The Atkinson Family. Front row: Agnes, Lillian, Annie, Doris, Vera; second row: Ernie, Joe; third row: Eva, Elsie, Agnes (mother), Lena; back row: Laburn, Geo. H. (father), George.

The year of 1900 was a very dry year. Just east there were cracks in the ground that you had to drive and ride for miles to get around them. Hay was being cut on Napoleon Lake. It started to rain and two mowers are in the bottom of Napoleon Lake now, because of not being able to get them out.

In the spring of 1907 George Atkinson sold out and moved to Innisfail where he ran the poolroom. There was a bowling alley (2 lanes) on Alberta Street. The picnic grounds were where Dodds' Lake is now. There was a race track around it. Recreation consisted of horse racing, trotting horses, horse shoe pitching, baseball fishing and hunting trips. In winter there was curling, and dancing at home to a violin, piano or organ. Skating and cards were often a form of entertainment.

The trading dollar was like \$5.00 today. A loaf of bread for 5c, canned tomatoes 25c, tea 35c, shoes \$2.50 a pair, and 50c to get a tooth pulled.

We had many family picnics at the mouth of the Little Red Deer River. We also looked forward to the picnics at John Browns' place for the Sunday School.

Jim Brown raised horses as did Scarletts. Mrs. Harry Scott will always be remembered by her driving a single horse and buggy to town with cream each week. She never passed children on their way home from school without giving them a ride. L.M. Sage kept up to 25 dogs and lived 2 1/2 miles west of town. These dogs were a great annoyance to the Little Red Deer folks. My sister and I had lunch with him one day and he could bake bread as good as any woman.

Some of the early pioneers of Innisfail were the Vartys', Wests', St. Denys', Thompsons, Andy Lennox, Hugh McFadyen, Dodds, Styles, Dundas, Wilson and Oldhams'. The town of Poplar Grove later known as Innisfail was pretty small.

On the same lot as the twin-house school was another building that was for a short time the elementary school. This building was eventually moved to where the Drs' Godkins now reside.

There were hard times for all and as children we would walk as far as the creamery barefoot - then put on our shoes and socks to go to school — returning home we would repeat the same procedure. This helped save on shoe leather.

Mother one year made 32 dresses to get a little extra to go on. She made dresses for her own girls as well as for those of the Brown family, Edgar family and McDougall family. We all have great respect for our mother and she was a true pioneer of this area.

ALFRED ASPINALL by Mrs. Verna Lynch

Alfred Aspinall was born (circa) 1876 in Keighly, Yorkshire, England coming to Canada with his cousin William Campbell. It was in 1892 that he arrived in Calgary and there bought a team of horses and a wagon. It was the year following the opening of the Calgary and Edmonton railroad he arrived in Innisfail and homesteaded seven miles south of Innisfail. He got his title to that land in 1896.

After this homesteading, Alfred Aspinall decided that farming would not be his Life's work and joined the North West Mounted Police in Calgary. His first duty was being one of an escort of two to take the famous Indian runner "Deerfoot" to Regina for trial. His last duty was as escort for King George and Queen Mary during their visit to Calgary. His duties were interrupted by the Boer War where he served as a scout with the famous North West Mounted Police Unit. He was wounded in action in South Africa and after hospitalization in England he was returned to Canada. Subsequently he left the North West Mounted Police and returned to the area he loved so much.

He found work in the creamery in Poplar Grove (Innisfail), then worked with Mr. G.W. West in his general store. Later he became associated with Mr. Jesse Stewart and operated a General Store at Mayton. This would be about 1902, records show



Mr. & Mrs. Alfred Aspinall.

that he married Carolina M. Murphy in 1903. Mrs. Aspinall had arrived at Mayton with her family and they were farming. They came from Duluth, Minnesota. She was born in Rush City, Minnesota.

The Aspinalls moved back to Innisfail in 1905 where he started in the Real Estate and Insurance business with many side lines such as sale of tickets for Ocean travel. When radio came into being he put in a radio department in his shop. He was on the town council, secretary of the school board, agricultural society and July 1st celebrations.

He was acting Secretary-treasurer of the Town of Innisfail when the secretary and whole council resigned leaving him and Bob Reedy, the policeman, the only two officers to run the town. He re-organized the town council and got them a new secretary.

The family of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Aspinall were: Nina, now Mrs. A.C. Wright of Delta, B.C. They have four sons, George of Toronto Alexander (Bill), Alfred and Robert all of British Columbia.

Verna now Mrs. James Lynch of Edmonton
Vivian now Mrs. Ralph W. Emrich of Scarlett Point Light Station, B.C. They have two daughters and two sons: Helen of Kelowna, Nina (Bonnie) living in B.C., Ralph (Bud) who is in the Canadian Army and Patrick who is living in B.C.

One adopted son Jack of Edmonton.

Among Mr. Aspinalls souvenirs are seven medals giving proof of excellent marksmanship. Between 1910 and 1914 he was a member of the Innisfail Rifle Association. He was a member of the Innisfail Fire Brigade in the early days. He had a great interest in



Willie Campbell and Alfred Aspinall at "Burlington Lodge" homestead, Aug. 9, 1893 at 7:30 p.m.

the community and was secretary treasurer of the Innisfail Fish and Game Club for many years. The Aspinall family were all members of St. Marks' Anglican Church and the girls belonged to the Tillicum Club (quite often called "The Till He Cum Club). The recreation of the earlier days were swimming at Mud Lake (Hazelwood Lake) skating on Dodds' Lake in winter, school basketball and later golf and badminton.

The girls were all educated in Innisfail Public and High School. Nina and Verna both attended Business College in Calgary later.



A. Aspinall on left, with Mr. Westlund, editor of Innisfail newspaper in early 1900's.

One story Mr. Aspinall told was very amusing about a fire at a store in Mayton. Some neighbor helping to remove items from the building, kept his cool — he literally threw the chinaware and very carefully — lowered kegs of nails from the upper floor with a rope.

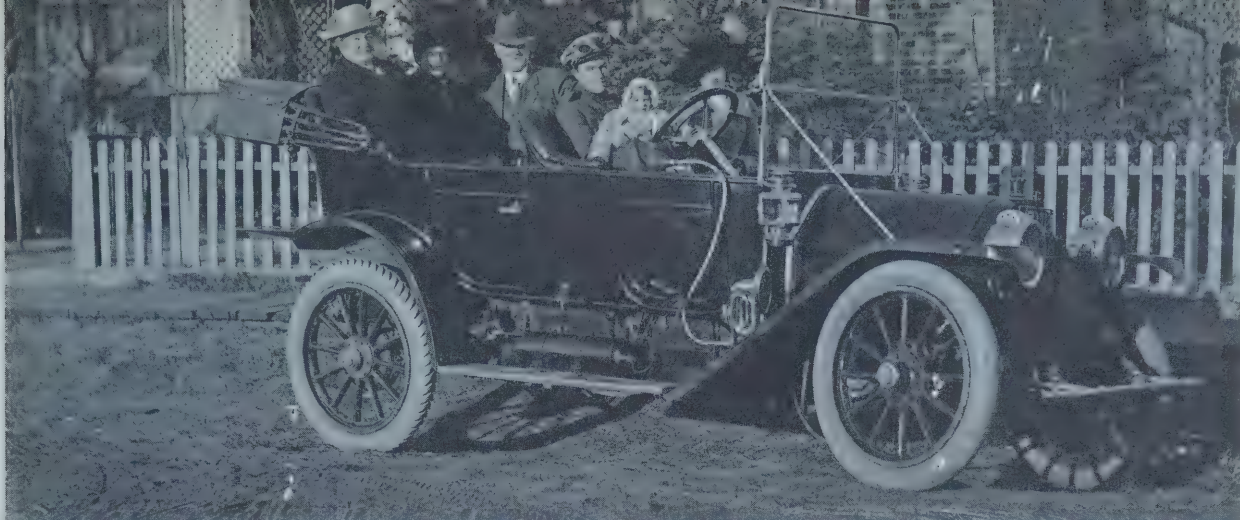
Alfred Aspinall passed away Mar 25, 1946 and Mrs. Aspinall March 28, 1948. Both are interred in the Innisfail Cemetery.

AFTER THE HORSE CAME

The first car in Innisfail belonged to Mr. G. T. Lundy in 1909; it was a high-wheeled buggy type.



Lennox's crossing the Tay River in Model T. Ford.



Russell Knight, 1913 touring car. It belonged to Mr. G. W. West. L. to R.: Mrs. G. W. West, Frank, G. W., Jack holding nephew Bernard Stitt, and Gladys Stitt.



Some of the first trucks in Innisfail sold by T. A. (Ted) Jensen's Garage; showing Ted Jensen and Frank Leslie.



Chickens going to Murgatroyd's Meat Market — Nov. 7, 1919.



They even did it then — a 1928 wrecked 'Star'.



Norman Briggs and friends touring the country in a "Reo".



Built by Ted Jensen for winter use — his ski buggy.



A winner at the Innisfail parade about 1924 (Ford)

ARTHUR W. BAKER by Mrs. Henry Holmes

Arthur William Baker was born in 1879 in Malmesbury, Wiltshire, England, one of four brothers; and was raised in Southampton. Arthur and his brother Ted had developed a love of the land when they had spent summer vacations on a farm and Canada was being advertised as the land of opportunity. Ted was 19 and Arthur 17 when they sailed from Southampton and arrived in Halifax in March, 1897. They worked on various farms around Brandon for a year and when Jim Wilson was moving his cattle to Poplar Grove, they came with him as nursemaids to a car load of cows. Mr. Wilson's ranch was located on the original Calgary - Edmonton trail. This was a very interesting place as the traffic heading for the Gold Rush of '98 passed that way. The prospectors travelled in every known conveyance, but some of them just walked with packs on their backs.

Life was hard for a green Englishman, especially if he was young. Arthur was dared to ride a vicious horse. He was immediately thrown and suffered a hip injury which troubled him all his life. At several places he did not get enough to eat, and while milking, if the boss was not looking, he would tip the pail and drink his fill.



First log shack of Frank Baker, 1905 — butchering a pig.

In the fall of 1898 Ted homesteaded east of Poplar Grove, and Arthur made his home with him until he was old enough to file on his own land. While there, they had their first encounter with heel flies. A neighbor, not knowing what caused his cattle to run accused the young Englishmen of throwing vitriol on them.

In 1900 Arthur filed on his homestead in what is now the West Lynne district. He was burned out, so in 1902 he bought a quarter of C.P.R. land for \$3.00 per acre and made his home there for 47 years. His yearly payment was \$60.00, which at times was very hard to make.

During the early days of his homesteading, Arthur met the Coulthwaite family. Elizabeth Coulthwaite had come from England as a child of 11 with her parents in 1893. She was one of the first pupils to attend the original Hill End school — a log building with home-made furniture. The only equipment each pupil needed was a slate and a pencil. Mrs. Edwin Songhurst was one of her teachers. The children walked to school across country on prairie trails as roads were not known until the settlers began to fence their property. School was held for a few months in the summer only.

On March 11, 1903 Arthur and Elizabeth were married. Their neighbors were: August Goldstrom, Edwin Snider, Horace Meeres, Wm. and Eldon Pixley, George Blake, Mert Caldwells, Ellis family, Jolly Nash — he became ill and sold his land to Mr. Baker before he died, Freddie Thun, Mike Brogan, Tim Kelly — when his wife died leaving him with three small children, he sold out and moved north — George Dalzell, and Monty Baker.

Elizabeth made butter and traded it, along with eggs, to the store for necessities. They never did receive any money — if anything was left over, it was credit. They did receive money when the first creamery opened in Innisfail. Arthur then hauled cream with a team and wagon carrying a weigh beam on the wagon to weigh all the cream. The hauler had to take a sample from everyone's cream to be tested at the creamery. It was then dumped into large barrels. None was hauled during the winter months, so the Hill End country store and post office was a great boon to the settlers.

Mrs. Baker recalls having to make a trip with team and wagon to Innisfail to visit a dentist who made periodic visits and set up shop in a hotel room. He got off the train with a bag of cold instruments and without washing, ran a nicotine-flavored finger around the inside of her mouth, picked up a pair of forceps, and pulled the offending tooth without benefit of anaesthetic. Then there was a chilly fourteen mile ride home.

An adequate water supply was always a problem until the deep drilling rigs came in. Bakers had a dug well which was 80 feet deep and they only got seepage. In the winter they melted snow and in summer used rain and slough water.

Mattresses were often made from straw. The ticking was emptied out in the fall and refilled with

freshly threshed straw. A blizzard in early May 1919 lasted three days and cattle drifted ahead of the storm into fence lines and corners; some were drowned in creeks. The wheat that was seeded before the storm was one of the best crops ever harvested. Dances were held in settlers' homes and later in Parchers' Hall — Mr. & Mrs. Parcher, an American couple, lived beside the hall and made their living from the dances.

The north half of West Lynne was originally owned by one family. When it was later sold to several families who moved in from a dried-out area around Medicine Hat, Mr. Baker along with other men in the district, immediately formed a school district. West Lynne school was opened in September 1928 with Miss Mary Walton (Mrs. Roy McArthur) as teacher. About one-third of the pupils, of all ages, were in grade one. Mr. Baker was the first chairman of the school board — a position he held for several years. He was also a charter member of the Alberta Wheat Pool and owned the first car in the district, a 1916 Model T Ford.



Mr. and Mrs. Arthur W. Baker.

The Baker boys' mother, Laura Louise, came out from England in 1902. Her sons built her a cottage in Poplar Grove, where she resided until 1921 when she moved to New Westminster where she died in 1923.

Arthur and Elizabeth Baker retired to Innisfail in 1949. He passed away in 1962 and Mrs. Baker is in a Red Deer nursing home. They had four children: Frank Edward, Arthur Leslie, Eleanor (Nellie) and Laura. Frank married Annie Thompson from Grahamston. Following her death he married Isabel Hewitt. Arthur was an electrician with a transport unit during WWII and while in England married May Burgess from Sussex. Frank and Arthur still operate their father's farm. Eleanor, a stenographer, married John Clark, a meteorologist from Sylvan Lake; they live in Edmonton. Laura trained as a nurse and married Henry Holmes from the Little Red Deer district. They live in Innisfail.

EDWARD ALFRED BAKER by Mrs. Carlo Neilson

My first relative to come to the Innisfail area was my grandfather and his family John Frederic Farrar . . . one of which was Alice Edith who became Mrs. Edward Baker.

Edward A. Baker was born in Salisbury, England in 1878 and came first to Manitoba in 1897 — then to Innisfail in the spring of 1898. It was while they were in Manitoba that they met a Mr. Wilson who was moving to Innisfail. It was he who hired "Ted" to accompany a load of stock. Teds' brother Arthur went along. Shortly after arriving at Innisfail (Poplar Grove) they began looking for homestead land. They consulted John A. Simpson. When they arrived in Innisfail Ted was 20 years old and Arthur 18 years. They did establish themselves on a homestead 8 miles east and 2 miles north of Innisfail. They stayed with Archie Cameron until their cabin was built. Ted said that after lunch on the first day of their arrival Arthur grabbed an axe and went out to cut logs for their new cabin. He had found his role as an Alberta farmer and never looked back. They "snaked" logs out from the woods with a chain and a team of horses. Asa Ford advised them to shingle the roof altho' many cabins had sod roofs at that time. The shingles were bought from a merchant in Innisfail. The neighbors co-operated with a "building bee". They hired two good axe-men — Billy Smith and Sam Hornett to do the corners. Some of the neighbors who came to help were Mr. & Mrs. Gordon Renno, Asa Ford, Herb Brush and Archie Cameron.

As soon as they had settled in, the rest of the family prepared to join them. Their mother, Laura Louise Baker sent money from England and the frame house was built. By the turn of the century Laura Baker and her 4 sons; Edward (Ted), Arthur, Montague (Monty) and Frank were all living on the homestead.

It was a drastic change for these boys to become Alberta farmers previously Ted was employed as an



Mr. and Mrs. Ted Baker and Granny Farrar

errand boy and apprentice in various shops in Southampton (chiefly at carpenter work). He mentioned the pay scale in the last shop where he worked: Union pay 7-1/2 d per hr., Learner's pay 3-1/2 d per hour.

The boys eventually acquired their own homesteads and made their living as pioneer farmers.

Ted Baker; married Alice Edith Farrar in February of 1906. Three children came from this union: John Arthur Baker (Toronto), Alice Marian (Mrs. Carlo Neilson Surrey), Dorothy Louise (Mrs. George Nelson of North Vancouver). Among the descendants are 3 grandsons named after Ted Baker.

Ted's youngest brother — Frank Leslie Baker left his Antler Hill farm to enlist in WWI and was killed in the Battle of the Somme.

Recreation during our time was not highly organized and "Scrub" baseball was the closest to an organized sport. Hunting birds' eggs — chasing gophers — picking wild flowers — and picking berries was perhaps more work than recreation, but nothing ever equalled the flavor of wild strawberries and dewberries.

Ted Baker was one of the original trustees of the Clarendon S.D. and gave it the name of a park area in England. My brother John Arthur Baker was the first boy to complete Grade 8 at this school. Some of the teachers were: Messers Dessen, Dinsmore, Healey and Miss Luella Center. Our schoolmates were the Sniders, Biggs, Songhursts, Biltons, Marshalls, Goldstroms, Langevins, Tom Ford and Sadie Conner — and Laura and Minnie Baker.

Our nearest neighbors were the Biggs family. Charlie Biggs was an American and his wife Norwegian. The oldest son "Cal" was called "California" because his arrival stopped his father from going off to the California gold rush. There were also the Coulthwaite family Ted & Arthur knew so well.

I think the most impressive event for me was the fall threshing. We were fascinated by the "caboose" my sister and I. Some of the crew lived in this but we never managed to penetrate it's mystery.

My mother organized and ran the Sunday School at Clarendon for some years. My Sunday School teacher was Mrs. Gordon Healey who had a fox fur with shiny bead eyes. The red fur matched her hair and I was fascinated with the effect.

My mother was an active member of the Red Cross during WWI and I recall the endless rolling of bandages.

My parents left the Innisfail district in 1921 moving to Richmond, B.C. where they resided for the rest of their lives. Mother — Alice Edith Baker died in 1960 and father — Edward Alfred Baker died in 1964.

MONTAGUE RICHARD BAKER by his daughter, Mrs. Minnie Louise Loxam

Monty was born in the cathedral town of Salisbury, England, in 1881. When he was quite young, the family moved to Southampton where he attended a boys' school. A short time after leaving school, he decided to come to Canada because his two older

brothers, Ted and Arthur, were homesteading at Poplar Grove. He left Southampton in 1898 by steamship, arriving in Montreal two weeks later; from Montreal to Calgary by train took another week, and then to Innisfail by wagon took a few more days.

For awhile he had apprenticed in photography in England, and brought his camera and equipment with him. He had the only camera in the district at this time. He did his own developing using glass negatives — I still have some of these negatives.

Monty first worked as chief cook and bottle washer for his two brothers. He enjoyed this work and his meals were usually good, but he did admit that his failures were consumed by the dog. Shortly after Monty arrived, Ted was married, which left Monty and Arthur on the homestead. After Arthur married, Monty took up homesteading on his own close by. The neighbours held a building bee and helped him build a log cabin with wood shingles and a barn with a sod roof. Monty "bached" here and before he married, he built a two-story frame house onto his log cabin, with the cabin becoming the kitchen.



Monty Baker used these oxen to put his first crop in, 1900, on his homestead east of Innisfail.

Oats and barley were the most common crops during the early years, as wheat didn't ripen before the frosts came. Monty used oxen to put in his first crop, which was completely frozen. He sold the oxen and bought a team of mules, then decided to try horses. He had never been around farm animals prior to coming to Canada, and it has been said he didn't even know how to harness a team of horses and made many mistakes in his early farming. He hauled the mail from Innisfail to the district post office, run by Mr. Songhurst, (the income from this helped) and a delivery service taking neighbors' produce into town and bringing back small items they required.

Monty married Ida Eleanor Snider in 1911. Soon after Monty and Ida were married, the neighbours gave them a chivaree — a type of surprise party given to newly weds. It starts with the neighbors gathering around outside the house after it is in darkness and making all the noise possible. The party then moves inside with food supplied by the neighbour ladies.

Monty's neighbours during his early homesteading days were the Blakes, Gowans, Brushes, Caldwells, Goldstroms and Songhursts.

Children:

Minnie Louise was born in 1912. She married David Loxam from Calgary. They now reside in Langley B.C.

Edith Elizabeth was born in 1914. She married Gordon William Kinsey from Bowden. Gordon passed away in 1968 and Edith now resides in Dawson Creek, B.C.

Richard William was born in 1916. He married Betty Hall from Watford, England, during World War II. They now reside in Calgary, Alberta.

Joseph Edwin was born in 1919. He married Thirza Clark from Darlington, England during World War II. They now reside in Calgary.

Douglas Alan was born in 1922. He married Jacqueline Madeline Sylvestre from St. Albert, Alberta, where they now reside.

The three older children were born at home and attended by Mrs. Hornet, the local midwife. Mrs. Hornet always travelled by horseback or mule, never in a buggy. Joseph and Douglas were born in the old Innisfail Hospital and attended by Dr. Turner.

I started Grade 1 in the old Innisfail School. Two of my schoolmates were Betty Bye and Alice Freeman. Shortly after I started Grade 1, we moved, so I completed Grades 1 through 8 at the Clarendon School, returning to Innisfail for High School. In Clarendon, my schoolmates were Pat, Minnie and Huldah Snider, Laura Baker, Reg, Dorothy and Rupert Marshall, and Joe and Johnny Langevin.

One of our close neighbours, Mr. Hubert Oyler, came for supper every Friday and always brought the children candy. Mother made bread for him. Mr. Oyler, a self-taught man who never attended school, wrote poetry that was printed in the 'Innisfail Province' during the 1920's.

The annual summer picnic was a big event, and everyone attended. The ladies brought the food, which was put on tablecloths spread on the grass. The men looked after the races for both children and adults, and also took turns cranking the ice cream freezer. The ice was supplied by Monty Baker. He put up ice, which was taken from a nearby lake every winter. He had built a special building to store it — the building was insulated with sawdust, and the ice was also covered with sawdust. On hot summer days the 'ice building' was a great place to cool off. Another highlight of the year was the school Christmas concert. A small gift, a bag of candy and an orange were placed on the popcorn garlanded tree for each child. In later years a dance was held after the concert, with a local band, and whole families staying — the wee ones were put to sleep on the desks which had been pushed against the walls to clear a space for dancing. Sometimes a box social was also held — the ladies would go all-out to see who could make the prettiest box, inside of which would be a lunch for two. During intermission the boxes were auctioned off to the highest bidders.

In 1919 Monty moved to Innisfail as his homestead was five miles from the nearest school, and his two oldest children were of school age. He worked that



Monty Baker Family: Back row: Ida, Dick, Monty, Mrs. Ted Baker; front row: Ted Baker's son and daughter on left; Monty Baker's daughters center; Ted Baker's daughter on right.

winter in the Williams and Little General Store. In the spring of 1920 he sold his homestead to Mr. Gill, bought another farm 11 miles from Innisfail on the old Pine Lake road, and once again started from scratch with raw land and no buildings. This farm was 1-1/2 miles from the Clarendon School. In 1929 Monty sold this farm and moved to Innisfail where he did carpentry work until moving to Calgary in 1941. In Calgary he worked at the Ogden Shops during World War II, and after that at Muttarts Lumber until retiring.

Monty's youngest brother, Frank, came out later with their mother, Laura Baker. Frank enlisted in World War I and was killed in action.

Monty Baker passed away on August 25, 1958 in Calgary.

GEORGE A. BAMPFIELD by Mrs. James Jeffares

"Bam" was born in the Rectory at Mithian, Cornwall, England on Dec. 9, 1873. At age 17 he left home to work as a chore boy on a farm near Brantford, Ontario and in two years saved enough money for train fare to Vernon, B.C. Here, first at Knox Ranches and then Lord Aberdeen's (the Gov.Gen.) he realized his dream of being a cowboy. After 4-1/2 years in the Okanagan he went home for a visit for six months and on his way back to Vernon went to Pine Lake to visit his friend Hinckson. It rained so much they could not get to Red Deer even with a horse and his train ticket expired, so he stayed two years to work for Hinckson. He discovered the "grass country" while looking for Hinckson's cattle and decided to settle there.

When he found the splendid flowing spring (still going 74 years later) he brought his belongings. He built a cabin dug into the bank south of the spring; large oval whiskey bottles laid on their sides between the logs were the windows. I can remember this dwelling when we used it for a chicken house.

To get a start, he ran horses for Reg Alford, a livery man in Red Deer, and would break them to drive. Mrs. Bam always said as soon as a team was gentle enough so she could relax, Reg would come and get them for his livery rigs and the Bams would begin all over again with another pair.

Bam also raised cattle on shares for J.A. Pope. Later on as the surrounding land was settled and fenced, he turned to mixed farming which he continued until he was 85 years old.

Bam happily continued squatting on his land meaning to file on it officially some day. Imagine his chagrin one day in the summer of 1904 when a wagon load of lumber came to a stop on the flat spot above the spring. Bam hurried across the draw and an angry confrontation took place but Mr. Grier showed his homestead papers. Bam galloped off to see what could be done; his friends rallied round and after several months of consultation and proof of squatting, etc., Bam was permitted to file and Mr. Grier went elsewhere after selling his frame house to Bam. This brought an end to an exciting morning sport; Bam had shot holes in the Grier stovepipe every morning as a greeting to the enemy.

Bam married Daisy Tetley at Pine Lake on Nov. 18, 1908. (born July 17, 1879 in Oxfordshire, England). They had two children: Sheila Georgina, born Mar. 19, 1910 m. James W.R. Jeffares May 25, 1934; they farmed adjoining her parent's farm; two sons, David, b. March 14, 1935 m. Dolores Fast, one girl Heather Dolores; live in Edmonton; Brian m. Gerardina Vanderzwan; live in Red Deer. Gerald, born Oct. 19, 1912; he farmed on part of Walter Scott's until he took over his Dad's homestead; m. Jean Margaret Wallin Aug. 20, 1953; four children — Margaret Ann (Davidson), Karen Daisey, Barbara Phyllis, Robert George; in 1968 they sold the farm and all moved to Albany, West Australia.



Mr. and Mrs. George Bamfield.

For countless years the Bams always went to the First of July celebrations in Innisfail. In those early years Sheila and Gerald held a competition as to who could count the most tiger lilies on their side of the road. Horsehair was carefully saved by the children, and sold to G.W. West for cash. The steers were sold to Blair MacMillan at the ranch, and then trailed to Innisfail. Mrs. Bam hated the trip to Innisfail by horses but enjoyed them when Bam bought a Model T Ford in 1919. In the old days when it was time to go to town for supplies Bam considered it an opportunity to break another horse. A wild horse would be tied to a quiet trained one and the two hitched to the wagon; by the time they reached town and

galloped down the street, the new horse was more or less under control.

There were no poplars or willows south of the farm because of the fires. When smoke was sighted on the horizon, they would attach picket chains, one on each side, to a large cowhide and ride beside the fire pulling it between two saddle horses. The hide flopping about would extinguish the flames. On some desperate occasions, a quarter of beef was used if no hide was available.

Mrs. "Bam" died on Feb. 24, 1949; Bam died in June 1962. They are buried in the St. Hilda's Cemetery near the little church which he helped to build in 1907.

BAMSEY STORY by George McArthur

Mr. Percival Bamsey came from Warminster, Wiltshire, England in the early nineteen hundreds. He worked as a blacksmith and later moved to Viking. He had served in the Boer War and later in the W.W.I. His father, Thomas Bamsey and eldest daughter Maria came to Innisfail in 1905. He had been advised to take an ocean voyage on account of his asthma — which never bothered him again after coming to Alberta. It took six weeks in a sailing ship to arrive in Canada. His wife and three daughters: Lilly, Margaret and Minnie followed later. They left one son in England.

Mr. & Mrs. Bamsey left Innisfail for a few years living at Kinsella, Alberta. It was Innisfail, however, that they retired to a few years later. Maria worked as a milliner until she married W.G. McArthur in 1908. Lilly married David Borthwick who was a town clerk in Innisfail at the time. Margaret took her teachers training and taught at Viking where she met and married G.A. Thompson. (they were married at Innisfail). Minnie lived at home.

Mr. Bamsey passed away June 28, 1926 and Mrs. Bamsey in July, 1943. They are both buried at Innisfail.

After the death of her mother, Minnie went on a trip to England and upon her return she worked at Lamont hospital where she lost her life in a car-train accident. At the time of this writing Margaret still lives in Vancouver.

It was Maria who was my mother.



Mr. and Mrs. Bamsey

TOM BARCLAY AND FAMILY by David Burns Dickson

Tom had been a baker in Glasgow. He homesteaded but remained on the land only a short time, ran a bakery in Innisfail for a while and then sold his quarter to the Dicksons and moved to Nakusp, B.C. where he also ran a bakery.

Tom's family were: William, John, Margaret (McQuarrie), Mary (Stewart), and Agnes. Three of the children came with them from Glasgow in 1892; the other two were born in Innisfail. This family disbursed to the U.S. and as the older ones passed away, contact with them was lost. (see Samuel Dickson story)

WILLIAM AND JOHN BARCLAY STORY by Lorne Barclay

John K. Barclay and William Barclay were born in Guelph, Ontario in 1876 and 1875 respectively. The word was out on the good farm land available in the West and so the brothers decided to take the challenge.

They had worked on farms in Ontario prior to coming West. They arrived in Innisfail in 1902 by train. From Innisfail they travelled on foot to find the land they liked. After they took up land here, one brother would stay home and clear the land while the other worked as a logger in the bush or in a stone quarry in Calgary to earn money to develop the farm.

John K. Barclay married Catherine McNicol who came from Gouroc, Scotland to visit her sister and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. John Wilson Sr. who had taken a homestead in the Milnerton district. When they were married William sold out to them and moved to Calgary.

William later married and had three sons one of whom is Lorne Barclay who came to work for his Uncle John and later bought the farm from him. John K. and Catherine Barclay had no family.

Closest neighbors were Tom and John Smith, the Hamptons, Charles Holt and Charles White. The early recreation that they attended was the Milnerton Fair.

They made much of their first money raising and selling horses.

William Barclay passed away in Calgary in 1926, John Barclay in 1953 (Innisfail) and Catherine Barclay in 1963 (Innisfail).

HENRY BARKEMEYER by John Barkemeyer

Henry Barkemeyer, born in Germany in 1852, emigrated with his wife and year old son to Albine, Nebraska, where he wanted to farm. Here they had three more children, and my mother died. It was hard to buy land in the States, so in 1902, my father brought his family, his father-in-law, and hired man — Otto Caneval — to Innisfail. We bought three quarters of land 4-1/2 miles north of Innisfail from Mr. S. P. Fream; about 10 acres was clear and the rest was all bush and willows. One quarter had a large house on it which had been built by an Englishman — Mr. Lucas. We paid \$12 per acre for the land; and we bought ten good milk cows for \$100.



Henry Barkemeyer

Our first neighbors were a man by the name of Winstone who lived on the place Mr. Morris bought later; and Mr. Spurgeon who owned the place Lester Wagers bought. In later years our neighbors were Mr. Doan, Mr. Quantz, the Morris family, Lester Wagers, and John Honan. Mr. Dodd, Mr. Goldstrom and my father got the first tractor north of Calgary.

As well as farming, my father bought and sold pigs for Pat Burns. They had as many as 1500 at a time. The highest price they got was 6-3/4c and the lowest 2c per lb.

My mother's father died at the age of 87 and was buried at Innisfail. My father died in 1914 when he was 62. He was buried in Innisfail.

My oldest brother, Henry, was born in Germany. He died a few years after we came to Innisfail at 27 years of age and was buried in Calgary.

My sister Minnie was married to Hans Krusell and they lived on the home farm up until a few years prior to Hans' death in October 1945. They had two daughters; one died at birth and the other one, Gertie, is now married to Toni Juuti and lives in Red Deer. Minnie died on May 13, 1948.

My brother Herman married Margaret Walker. They farmed in the Innisfail district until 1945. They had two daughters: Marjorie — Mrs. William Perrott of Innisfail; and Mildred — Mrs. Norman Sim of Ottawa. Herman died Jan. 25, 1969. He was predeceased by his wife on Jan. 20, 1962.

I (John) married Amy Dolphin of Raven and we had six children: our oldest daughter Frances married Garth Lewis and lives in Edmonton. Our oldest son died at 17 months and was buried in Innisfail. The next daughter, Doreen, is now Mrs. Dick Vrielink and lives in Calgary. The next daughter, Eileen, died in a car-train collision in Innisfail Nov. 9, 1947; she was 18. Our twin sons were born in Innisfail April 6, 1933. Herman served in the Korean War and married Inga Kivimaki. They now live at Camp Creek, Alta. John has been in the Air Force since he was seventeen. He married Joyce Saffin; they live at the Air Force Base in Comox, B.C. He was stationed in Germany for five years. I was sixteen when we came to Innisfail, so went to school only in Albine, Nebraska. I celebrated my 86th birthday on April 19, 1973.

THE BARWIS STORY by Mrs. Dorothy Sibley

Jim Barwis, my father, came from Quebec. He was born Sept. 17, 1853. He was a Sgt. Major in the North West Mounted Police. He married the former Frances Thomson (born Jan. 18, 1868). She had come west from Quebec because her sister, Mrs. J.D. Lauder and her brother, Frank Thomson were here. Mother and Father were married Nov. 3, 1891 at Calgary.

Dad resigned from the N.W.M.P. and decided to take up ranching. He chose Antler Hill for ranching. He had to give it up due to failing health. At one time he helped Louis St. Denis Sr. drive up a herd of horses, about 65 head, to Innisfail.

We moved into Innisfail where Dad worked for a short time with John Bear in the Barber Shop. By this time, however, he was confined to the house and Mother did a lot of midwife duties and was our sole support into her mature years.

Father was able to do some beautiful carvings on pipes and earrings. He would carve buffalo heads on these pieces. He would get buffalo horns to work with from the Indians.

The children born to Frances and Jim Barwis were: Shepherd, who Grandpa took to Vancouver to work in a bank. (Shepherd lived with an aunt who had married my Grandfather). He served in W.W.I and was killed.

Dewey, always liked the prairie and was a cowboy. He went to W.W.I and when he returned he worked for the C.P.R. and lost a leg through a gun accident. He is now deceased.

Dorothy (Dossey), married F.E. Sibley and we reside in Lethbridge. We have 3 children: Louise (Mrs. Envik), Shirley (Mrs. Sawatzky) — both these daughters live in Lethbridge. Lois, (Mrs. Vicens) resides in Vancouver.

Mary (Doolie) is Mrs. McInroy. She has 3 children: Frances (Mrs. Shepard) of Wetaskiwin, Stewart who was in the police force, now deceased, and Patricia who died in the Sanitorium.

I remember playing with Charlie Maynard who lived with us for some time. Mr. Whitehead took Charlie back to England with him. I remember Mother nursing with Mr. Orton during the flu epidemic and also shall never forget how we children would sleigh-ride down our hill and end up in our kitchen.

One day Mother was driving a team of horses hitched to a wagon and they bolted and threw me out of the wagon in front of Wests' store. Mrs. West came and picked me up and took me to Dr. Lauder.

Sunday was a great day for a group of young people. We would gather at Wests' and Jack West would go to the store and get a supply of candy then we would all go touring with him in his Father's E.M.F. motor car.

We all attended school in Innisfail and were members of the Anglican Church.

My Dad passed away in 1901 and Mother in 1938.

THE BATEMAN FAMILY by Ernie & Dave Bateman

Isaac Bateman was born in England in 1852 where he received his education. In 1876 he married Miss Jessie Coulthard of Siloth, Cumberland, England. At the time of his marriage, Mr. Bateman was a member of the Police Force and remained with the force until coming to Canada in 1891. He and his family lived for nine years at Lindsay, Haliburton County, Ontario before coming west to Innisfail in 1900. While in Ontario he worked for the Irondale-Bancroft and Ottawa Railroad.

Mr. & Mrs. Bateman had a family of nine children of whom seven were born in England and two in Ontario. Upon their arrival at Innisfail they took up homesteading in the Big Bend District west of Innisfail. That land is now known as the Innisfail Airport.

Isaac Bateman was a member of the School board for many years and during their years in the Big Bend District they were very active in all community activities. Two daughters, Agnes and Annie died in infancy. The family who made the long trip west with their parents were:

Thomas William — deceased; Isaac — (married Nellie Alden) — Castor; Joseph — married Pillman; Alliance; Ernest — married Eva Brandt; Innisfail; Jessie — married Fred Munro; Debolt; David — married Gertrude Potter; Innisfail; Jennie — married Bert Johnson; Spokane.

Mr. Isaac Bateman passed away in 1934 and Mrs. Bateman in 1931. They are buried in the Innisfail Cemetery.

Of the seven Bateman children, only two (David and Ernest) remained in the Innisfail district. Dave took over the old homestead and Ernie took up farming in the same community. Some of their earliest neighbors were the Succee's, Scheckler's, Sullivans, Morisons, and Conns.

Dave and Gertie Bateman and family were residents of Big Bend until their farm was taken during the second war as an airforce training center. They then moved to the Niobe district, where they made their home for several years. Mrs. Bateman passed away in 1953 and is buried in Innisfail Cemetery. Dave is now retired and residing in Innisfail. Their family of eight children are:

Isaac — married Esther Beglaw; 2 children; Lillian — married Darrell Berghaus; 2 children; Alec — married Zinnia Symborski; 3 children; Dorothy — married Delbert Calvert; 2 children; Glen — single; Gwen — married George Connon; 4 children; Ruth — married Howard Rutley; 5 children; Art — married Marie Rositer; 4 children. Two children June and Bobby passed away during their early years.

Ernest and Eva Bateman spent their entire married life on their farm in the 'Bend'. Mrs. Bateman passed away in 1971 and is buried in Innisfail Cemetery. Mr. Bateman at 86 still lives on the farm with his son Norman. When the new bridge on the Red Deer River is completed, Mr. Bateman will have seen three bridges built on approximately the same spot.

Ernest and Eva Bateman's family of four children are:

Allen — married Betty Morison; 4 children; Ileen — married Joe Johanson; 4 children; Norman — single; Donald — married Sheila McKevitt; 6 children; One daughter, Madelene, passed away in infancy.

Allen Bateman served with the Royal Canadian Army 95th Field Battery from June 1941 to Jan. 1946. Four of those years were spent in the United Kingdom and Continental Europe.

Although the days of the early pioneers were often difficult and at times discouraging, they remained a hardy lot. The fortitude, perseverance and ingenuity of our pioneer families is a great credit to our country. Their endeavours and accomplishments have helped to make possible the affluent life of today, but to many old timers, the old days will always be the best.

THE BAYCROFT STORY by William Roy Baycroft

My father, William John Baycroft was born March 1, 1850. (deceased 1938) My mother, the former Josephine Amanda McCarthy was born April 17, 1857. (deceased Sept. 2, 1925)

In Ontario, Father had a market garden in Toronto and was a farmer. He was a teacher having attended Queens' University. He enlisted from the University Company for the Reil Rebellion. He taught in twenty to thirty different schools in Alberta.

The Baycroft family consisting of Mr. and Mrs. W.J. Baycroft and their three children, Harry, Perry and Roy came to Calgary in 1893. We first lived in Calgary (Glenmore) then moved to Morley, back to Calgary and then to Innisfail. in 1899. Dad came with his nephew, Perry McDermott and sons to Innisfail to homestead where I, Roy have remained all these years. Perry had just returned from the Gold Rush in the Klondike. Dad drove up here with horses, the family arrived via train (Mother, Roy and Alva) We stayed at Constantines for one week. I recall that when coming on the train that two fellows from Ontario had started to walk to Sam Arnolds' and they laid to rest on the railroad tracks and one was run over and killed. Mr. Constantine drove us to the homestead. Next to our homestead was a deserted shack so we stayed there.

The first Innisfail businessmen we dealt with were G.W. West, Jack Wilson (Blacksmith) Dr. George, and P.T. Goulters' Hardware.

My older brother had gone to school in Ontario, the rest of us attended the Innisfail school. I (Roy) started school in the Murray Hotel with Mabel Constantine as teacher. I attended school with the George boys, Ernie and Jack Dodd, Eva and Ella Lundy, Maggie Curry and the Lauders.

In 1902-03 there was a very bad scarlett fever epidemic. Many deaths occurred, Jack Smiths' daughter died from it. Dr. George and Dr. Crawford were the doctors at the time and were going night and day.

The winter of 1906-07 was severe. We had had lots of hay and it was cut and ready when the bad weather set in. We were able to use it for bedding — many others were not as fortunate.

Dad had brought some machinery from Calgary when he first came and later bought a mower and rake from Archer and Simpson. He bought bob sleighs and breaking plows from Bill Kemp. Early neighbors were Dave Arnells' mother; Dave Biggs, Bothomleys. Women could homestead if they had a family.

The family born to Mr and Mrs. William John Baycroft were: Henry Elmo (born 1887); Perry McCarthy (born 1889), William Roy (born 1893) and Alva Edison (born 1896).

Harry left home and went into the garage business in Lethbridge later became a sub-contractor in Spokane, Wash. Perry and I were on the road as travellers for Duel Shapley & Muir. I then built a garage at Killam and Perry joined me later. Perry and I joined the Imperial Army and both served overseas. We both returned in 1919 to Innisfail. I spent a long time in hospital because of a war injury. Alva became a teacher and married Dorothy Young of Bowden.



Mr. and Mrs. Wm. J. Baycroft

I recall the great recreation we had in the early days around Innisfail. There was lots of dancing. It was nothing to drive by horse twenty miles to a dance. We had a fancy cutter with springs and a top that brought many a young lady to our side. We had dancing lessons in Innisfail too. Dora Lauder, Maggie Currie, Maggie Dodd were some taking them too. Jennie Dodd was the teacher and she was so big and strong that she could push us around and make us do it right. There was also baseball with Jack Gilmour and Johnny Wilson; football with Bob Sharp as Captain and Fred Watkins; hockey with Johnny St. Denis and Tom Lauder.

The first car I ever drove belonged to G.W. West. His son Jack and I would take it out. Wests' was a gathering place at that time just to look at this car. I remember Dr. Membry had a steamer car that his

father had shipped to him from Toronto. Our first car was a Q 2 Maxwell and we bought it in 1912.

Dad was a Mason in Ontario prior to coming west. He was sec/treas of the Agricultural Fair in Innisfail and was in the organizing of the Co-operative Creamery here. Mother was very active in the I.O.D.E. with Mrs. West.

The first threshing machine used on our land was in about 1902. It was a portable steamer that belonged to John Howard. I, Roy, was one of the first to get a combine in the district. I have 700 acres on the homeplace and a section of land out east. We raised grain especially wheat and barley. We also raised a lot of cattle and have had up to 600 head in the feed lot. Einer Stephenson and I bought cattle at the same time from Blair McMillan and we also did a lot of business with Izzie Kline.

I served fifteen years on the Buffalo Creek School Board, twelve years as a Councillor, am a member of the Royal Canadian Legion and Masonic Lodge. I have always been active in organizing community programs.

In 1922 I married the former Margaret Isobel Hayes. We have seven children: Bernice Winnifred (born 1922 — dec), Harry Franklin (born 1924), William Charles (born 1926), Roy Victor (born 1928), twins Betty June and Robert John (born 1930) and Frances Isobel (born 1933)

My wife and I retired to Innisfail in 1972 and I am not enjoying it.

ALFRED BAYNHAM by Allen Baynham

My mother, Minnie Baynham, my two brothers and myself came from Ottawa, Ontario in the spring of 1909. My father, Alfred Baynham, joined the family in the fall of that year.

The Baileys, the Dan Davis' and the Baynham families were friends in Ottawa. When the former came west, they settled in what became Red Raven School district, now known as the Kevisville area. When the Baynhams decided to take up a homestead, they chose the quarter immediately south of the Dan Davis home.

We came to Bowden by train and hired a livery team there for the remainder of the journey. The household effects arrived later and a neighbor, Arthur Mynott, brought them to us from Bowden by ox team.

Alfred Baynham was a painter and paper hanger by trade. He worked at the Dominion Experimental Station in Ottawa and was well acquainted with the plant breeder, Saunders. When he first came west, he worked for a time in Calgary; then continued with his trade in Innisfail while his wife and sons developed the homestead. Alfred Baynham stayed much of the time in Innisfail to be near his work. He was a Mason and an Oddfellow and rarely missed a lodge meeting. In the winter, which was the slack season in his trade, he was able to spend more time with his family. The winter the Moose Mountain bridge was built he worked on it. Many times, in order to be with his family, he walked from Innisfail the twenty miles to the homestead and back. Occasionally he could catch

a ride, but more often he walked. The first summer Minnie Baynham and her three sons stayed in the Dan Davis home while the Baynham log house, consisting of three small rooms, was built.

Neighbors — Baileys, Dan Davis, Lees, Bensons, Clarkes, Shannons, and Arthur Mynott, were already settled in the immediate neighborhood when the Baynhams arrived. Dan Davis had been a mounted police, but when I knew him he had the farm and worked in Calgary. The Bailey families farmed; had a steam engine, a sawmill, and a threshing outfit. Steve Benson farmed and was a renowned blacksmith. Nelson Lee raised Holstein cattle and travelled his stallion. P.A. Mynott farmed. Other neighbors included the Bertelsens, Lundgrens, and Chris Andersens.

Frost was a real drawback. It was very difficult to grow potatoes. They were always planted on very high ground. Streams abounded in fish. Rabbits and grouse furnished many a tasty meal. Wild fruits were plentiful.

There were periodic trips with team and wagon to Innisfail for staple supplies. Such trips took a day each way. The travellers would spend the night in an Innisfail boarding house or camp out on the edge of town.

All grain was stacked and threshed from the stack. There were few threshing outfits, so it often took until Christmas time to make the rounds. Local men made up the threshing crew. In the winter they worked in the bush or at sawmills. Wages here were about \$1 a day. Tamarac posts were cut and hauled to Innisfail; many sold to G.W. West. A load of 50 double length brought about \$14.

Allen Baynham attended school at Red Raven, Innisfail, and Dickson. There was no school in their district when they arrived, but Red Raven was built shortly afterward. While I, Allen, was attending Red Raven, Steven Benson had a field of grain across the road from the school. He hired Oscar Lundgren, myself, and some other boys to go through the grain and pull the mustard during our free time at noon and recess. He paid us each 10c for our work.

I remember one pioneer Christmas party at a neighbor's; money was scarce and fresh fruit a real treat. The apples that year were extra large and were each cut in half so they would go around.

The Baynham's eldest son John enlisted in Innisfail in 1914 in the 187th Batt. He died of wounds in 1917. Minnie Baynham was very ill at the time and passed away soon after her son. Alfred Baynham died suddenly in 1927. They are buried in Innisfail. Their second son, Charles, married a local girl, Hazel Lee. They reside near Salmon Arm, B.C. and have one daughter, Ellice Lorene. The youngest son, Allen, married Ena Herman from Cluny. They live on the original homestead in Kevisville.

THE BENEDICT STORY by Mrs. Stan Benedict

Four of the sons of Edwin and Roselle Benedict of Arthur, Iowa emigrated to the Mayton district south and east of Innisfail in 1902. They came after reading literature on the west, that instilled a pioneering

spirit and the lure of adventure in a new land into their hearts. They came on a mixed stock train and then by horse and buggy to their land. Like most settlers, they endured many hardships in a sometimes harsh land. Some of the family lived in a closed-in hayrack until they were able to build a small home.

The Benedict men consisting of Alfred, Roy, Sherwood and Archie had a large herd of cattle. They operated a dipping vat for mange. Neighbors for miles around brought their cattle to be dipped. They had a covered wagon near the vat, so they could stay at the job till it was finished. This usually took several weeks. Grass was plentiful in those days and the ranchers dread was prairie fires which often wiped out pastures as well as winter feed. During the hard winter of 1919, the Benedicts lost hundreds of head of cattle as did other ranchers. Each fall the cattle were rounded up off the range and were driven to market in Innisfail or Olds. The cattle and horses were all branded and had to be separated as to brands as they pastured on open range.

The Benedict men were pioneers in machinery. They made their own stock loader and brush cutter. They owned one of the first stationary engines and threshing machines and threshed for their neighbors. Most of the Benedicts were big men and had a love of family and animals, especially cattle and horses.

Alfred Benedict was born in Arthur, Iowa, May 18, 1876. He married Alverda Bennett, Dec. 24, 1898. They had four children: Lester (who died in infancy), Bernice (Mrs. Tom Rear) — she died in 1957 and survived by 3 children — Cecil, Raymond and Alverda; Mildred (married Rev. Gordon Blenkhorn) — she died in 1972 and is survived by a son David.; Burdett farmed his fathers place until he died in 1968. Burdett was predeceased by a son Wayne and survived by a daughter Carol Ann. Mrs. Alfred Benedict died in 1942. Mr. Benedict later married Mrs. Alma Blenkhorn. He died in 1951 coming back from Florida. Roy Benedict was born at Arthur Iowa June 15, 1874. He married Bertha Bennett Feb. 1897 and moved to Jericho Springs, Missouri. Their farm had been a slave plantation. Their three eldest children were born there. They moved to the Mayton District in 1903. Their children were: Roselle (Mrs. V. Harris), mother of 9 children (Helen, Marian, Robert, Dorothy, Gertrude, Kenneth, Grant, Desmond (deceased) and Gail. Edith (Mrs. Postell deceased and mother of two girls Doreen & Edith; Earl (teacher) Burnaby, father of three daughters Merle, Marie & Louise and one son William. Miss Olive Benedict (teacher) and Miss Verda Benedict (teacher) — deceased).

Sherwood Benedict was born Feb. 15, 1881. He married Mary Gerber on May 15, 1909. He farmed for a while with his brothers before moving south of Hanna. He returned to the Mayton district and lived there until his death in 1964. His wife is now living in Calgary. Sherwood is survived by sons: Roland (who farms on his Dad's place) and the father of a son Bryon and a daughter Dianne; Don, the father of three sons, Don Jr., Glen and Jim and two daughters

Beverly and Rebecca, lives on a farm south of Hanna. Dr. Frank Benedict lives in California and is the father of 3 daughters, Donna, Coleen and Jo Ann and one son Rodney; Jean (Mrs. H. Payne) Calgary, mother of two daughters Marilyn and Heather.

Archie Benedict was born November 21, 1878 and married Violet Wilson April 10, 1907. They lived south and east of Innisfail for a while then in 1909 moved to a farm south of Hanna. Later Mr. Benedict owned and operated a store in Hanna. He died in 1917. Mrs. Benedict and family moved to Calgary and in 1926 moved to Wimborne district where her two sons and family still reside. They were parents of three sons and one daughter: Harold (farming at Wimborne. Father of one son Alex and a daughter Edith (Mrs. R. Bruntjen); Stanley (farming at Wimborne. Father of son Jack and daughter Ruth (Mrs. R. Cwiklewich); Russell (deceased in 1955) university graduate in Agriculture and father of a son Glen and daughter Maureen (Mrs. R. Semeniuk). Mrs. Benedict was married a second time and retired to Calgary in 1946. She died January 24, 1969.

GEORGE BENNETT by Gladys Stringer

George Bennett first came out to Saskatchewan on a harvest excursion returning to Ashton, Ontario where he married Matilda on April 27, 1910. They had two sons, Raymond and Willard, born in Ontario before coming to the Innisfail district in April 1913. They settled in the Horseshoe Lake district farming and living on the Sam Pendergast farm, now owned by W.C. Schaefer and Sons.

George played the violin for many of the dances and to amuse us at home; once he was sick with measles and played while lying on his back. He quit playing only in recent years when his hearing got poor.

They moved to the Mayton district and farmed there for 13 years. George hauled coal from Three Hills to Mayton in the winter with the team and sleigh. He could be heard whistling for many miles coming home after dark; we children would listen for him coming. In the summer of 1926 we moved to the Horse Shoe Lake district where we lived in the barn while building a house. While we were in the barn a big wind came up one day moving the barn six inches off the foundation. George broke up many acres of land for other farmers and also did a lot of trucking for everyone. One time he was hauling lumber from west of Sundre and drove up on the ferry; he forgot to block the truck, the ferrie moved, causing the truck to roll back into the river into 8 feet of water. Luckily he wasn't in the truck at the time.

Another time he went to B.C. and brought back a whole truck load of loose apples. He hauled ice from Horse Shoe Lake to people for their ice wells. These were our refrigerators to keep the cream cool in the summer and also used to keep other perishables. A deep hole four feet square and 10 to 16 feet deep was dug and filled with ice and covered with sawdust and a building put over for shade. The ice would keep all summer long.

The Bennetts moved into Innisfail in 1940 where Mr. Bennett hauled the mail on the route west of town for 14 years. They retired and moved into Autumn Glen Lodge. Matilda was moved to Didsbury Nursing home in January 1973. She will be 90 years old in September 1973. George can still be seen most days walking the roads pulling his cart and picking bottles at the age of 90 (91 in Oct., 1973). John Fisher now owns and farms the land once owned by George Bennett.

Children:

Raymond Orville Bennett — m. Irene Moffat (dec. Apr. 27, 1963); 6 sons — Ronald, Russell, Dwayne, Lyle, Brian, Chris. Willard Carl — m. Lena Pendergast; Innisfail; ch. Margarete, Colleen, Dale. Gladys Alberta — m. Borden Stringer; K.H.V.; 2 ch. Murray, Darlene. Harold Edgar — m. Edna McGrandle; 2 ch. Stewart, Dallas; div. & m. Bertha Malette; living in Olds. Marian Irene — m. Joe Calvert; Calder; 2 ch. — Joyce, Sharon. Lola Maude — m. John Fisher; home farm; 1 ch. Deborah. Ruby May — m. Stan Holt; K.H.V.; 4 ch. Darryle, Cherry, Ricky, Dixie. Roy Elmer — bachelor; Innisfail.

JOHN BENEDICTSON by his daughter, Helen Gaetz

My father was born in Eithstotum, Iceland on Jan. 18, 1871. He came to Canada in 1874 where his parents settled for a year in Ontario and then moved to 'New Iceland' near Lake Winnipeg, Manitoba. His mother died in 1876 in a smallpox epidemic; in 1879 he moved with his father and step-mother to the Icelandic settlement at Pembina, North Dakota. He moved from there to Canada in 1889. Father stayed in Calgary, working for the Eau Claire Lumber Co. and came up to the Tindastoll district in 1896 where he started a cheese factory along with a small store on the bank of the Medicine River. He made farmers milk into cheese which they could either trade with him for supplies, or he would peddle or barter it at Ray Gaetz's store in Red Deer. Father prospered in a modest way for the next three years, and when the Dominion Government took over the factory in 1899 he got enough money out of the deal to build a general store in partnership with his brother, Oliver, where Markerville is now situated. He took over the post office from Johann Bjornson. The Icelanders built a library in the back of father's store; when the farmers brought their supplies, they exchanged books at the library. John Hunford was the librarian. In Iceland at that time there was no illiteracy. Today there is a book store in every block in their capital city, Reykjavik. Iceland has the oldest parliament in the world, opening in 970 — England opened their parliament a hundred years later.

I remember a few farmers who would come into the store in the winter with frozen feet. Father had them sit down beside the pot-bellied stove and soak their feet in a pail of coal oil, which seemed to thaw them out. He had the first telephone in the district installed in his store. I remember often waking in the middle of the night with someone banging on the window asking father to phone Innisfail for the doctor. The



John Benedictson

doctor had to come on horseback or horse and buggy; sometimes he would reach the patient too late.

The people had good times dancing until morning to the music of a violin and organ. During midnight lunch time, my father would entertain them with his step dancing. He was fond of music and he and his brother bought the first phonograph in the district. It had a big horn and on it was printed 'His Master's Voice'. It caused a lot of excitement and enjoyment in the district.

In 1896 when he married Lena Strong, they were one of the first couples to be married in the new Presbyterian Church in Innisfail. They had eight children: four sons — Leo and Albert, both deceased; Oliver and Johnny, now living in Edmonton; four daughters — Laura — Mrs. M.R. Meldrum (deceased); Helga — Mrs. J.R. Gaetz; Violet — Mrs. H.S. Allen; and Josephine — Mrs. F.V. Wetterberg; all living in Edmonton.

John Benedictson died on July 12, 1925.

THE JOSH BERRY STORY by Mrs. Dezall

The Berry family arrived in Innisfail in 1902 from Nebraska. They had received information about the west from their son Bill who was working in Edmonton. Mr. Berry with a large family was greatly interested in the cheap land and the opportunities for young people, and felt that it was worth looking into. He and son Dave came up and decided to move, selecting land at Raven on the Raven River.

Bill came down from Edmonton and the boys started to build a house. Mr. Berry returned to Nebraska to move the family. He brought everything he would need with him including seed grain, horses, cattle, machinery and household effects. It took two large train cars to hold it all. When the family arrived in Innisfail, the house was not quite finished so Mrs. Berry and the children stayed in Innisfail for about a month in a small shack across from deLong's.

When they got to the farm, the seed grain had to be stored, so boards were placed on top and beds were made on the boards. — so the grain became part of the house! Mrs. Berry cried for days when she saw her new home. Having left a comfortable home with fruit trees and close neighbors made it very hard for her to bear.

There was no shortage of food and there was fish galor in the Raven River. There was much in wild game available. Mr. Berry always butchered cattle and pigs. Each boy when he became of age received a team and wagon.

Our house became a stopping house for everyone travelling through. Mr. Ted Onsum, Mr. McLean and Mr. Boucher would bring expectant buyers in search of land and would have to stay the night with us because of the time the journey would take. They would get supper, bed and breakfast and the horse fed for \$1.00.

A school was started and the children attended it. Mr. Berry applied for a Post Office and received a letter asking for a name. Because it was on the Raven River, Raven was the name given. Mr. Berry had the first post office and store. This he operated along with the farm for some time. He then sold it to John's (who was a cripple).

Mr. Shannon was six miles down the river and he said he didn't know how anyone had nerve enough to come and settle there as he had 400 head of cattle and there wasn't room for them with the muskeg and quicksand. Schillings were located across the road from where the old school is now. Rose Schilling married Ted Onsum.

People I remember well were Sid Sparrow, Jack Pallant and the Realms Brothers. They were three remittance men. They didn't stay long enough to prove up on their land. The Fleischmans — Hans and Annie, arrived in 1904-05. Many of their children are still living in the area. Buzz Harold and his brother, Walt, came from Iowa the same year we came. Walt would go out to work and send the money he made back to Buzz to help get the farm going. In due time his lady friend arrived and they were married and he took her home in a wagon. They had to ford the river and her feet were in the water. Some honeymoon ride! Mr. Pallant was about seven feet tall. He bought a team of Indian Ponies and wagon. His legs were so long that as he drove it along it looked like three men in the rig.

The family of Mr. and Mrs. Berry were: Anna, Dave, Grace (who was married before we came to Canada), Harper, Mae (me) Press, Bernice, Hazel, Charles and Myrtle. Charles had a tragic death. He

was on a train to Jasper and there was a snow slide. They asked for volunteers and he died in a snow slide.

I guess I had a wandering spirit. I worked in the hotel in Innisfail and then in the hospital in Banff. My wages were \$9.00 a month and I saved enough money to go to Vancouver. While there I met Ed Dezall and we were married. We lived at Agosy, B.C. for five years, then went to Chinook, Alta. We didn't like the Alkali water so back we went to Raven in 1918. We bought the Raven Store and P.O. from Mrs. Wm Hodge. Mr. Copeland was the mail carrier. Ed liked the outdoor life and so sold the store to Mr. Walker and we farmed next to the store until we retired to Innisfail. During our time on the farm the Dezalls carried on the same traditions as the Berry's — a home and a meal for all. Fishermen and Hunters from Innisfail all stopped at Dezalls.

The Dezalls' had a family of five: Ken (married Marjorie Healy) They have two sons Ted and Jack: Marie married Jack Dorsey and reside in Edmonton. They have three children: Jacqueline, Mike and Candace: Irene married Clarence Wren and have two children — Gordon and Frances. Irene and Clarence had the Raven Fish Rearing Station. Charles married Wilma Michael and resides at Caroline. They have five children: Roger, Ken (dec), Eddie, Tom and Mike. Ernie married Joyce Williamson and they have twins Robert and Robin and a daughter, Leslie.

The first church service in the early days was held in the Berry House.

The Dezalls thought a church was needed at Raven. So, with the help of neighbors, logs were assembled and a beautiful log Church was erected. Today there is no passer-by that doesn't comment on the beautiful Church and Church yard. Mr. Dezall is buried there and many members of the Berry family.

JOSEPH BERRY by Mabel Berry Pendergast

Joseph Berry, his wife, and 14 year old daughter Mabel, accompanied by Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Watson, came from Nanaimo, B.C. arriving in Innisfail the middle of March 1903. I remember being very surprised by the vast prairie, and the little place called Innisfail with very muddy roads and few stores. The Royal Hotel, a frame building with stairs going up the back outside, was our first stop. A cow was wandering aimlessly across the road and not being very familiar with cows, I was afraid to go very far from the hotel.

We knew the direction of our homestead, but just where and how to get there was the problem. However, my father finally met up with a cattle rancher, Mr. John McArthur, who was in town for provisions, and he kindly offered to drive us out. He had a ranch east of town, and he knew of an old log cabin which belonged to a bachelor, Mr. Milner, which was vacant at the time, that we could use. So we started out from Innisfail, and I'll never forget the gumbo mud and corduroy roads. We didn't think much of the cabin, but at least it was a shelter. (It must have been well built because it still stands (now converted into a chicken coop). It contained a stove,

a table, boxes, a couple of chairs, and a bunk in the attic.

Our supper was the remains of what we had while on the train. We soon found out there was no corner store nearby and our supplies were almost non-existent; we did have some rolled oats for breakfast. Then my dad and cousin struck out to find a store. They walked as far as the Nolan Bros. farm who loaned them two saddle horses and directed them to the Knee Hill Valley store.

Three or four days later my dad's brother, Dick Berry, and his family (8 in all) arrived from the States with no place to go; so into the log cabin with us. Thank goodness we weren't there very long. My dad bought a team of horses and struck out for Innisfail to get some lumber for a house. The roads were awful, so he couldn't bring out very much lumber at a time, but he got enough out for a place 14' by 16' of straight up and down boards covered with tar paper on the outside. When our furniture came there was a problem of where to put it in such a small room. We had a piano, table, chairs, stove, and beds and other bits of furniture which we could have done without, so Dad put boards on the rafters and made an attic for storage. Winter was coming on and our house was just a shell, so we banked it to the eaves with sods, which at least kept us from freezing. Next year an addition was built on and the house sided.

We sure missed good drinking water. We had dug a well with water strong with alkali and as hard as nails. When we tried cooking beans, the longer we boiled them the harder they got. We finally found a spring in the bank of the creek which ran through the farm. It had a rather peculiar taste but we got accustomed to it and the water was soft.

My mother passed away in 1906 and is buried in the Innisfail cemetery. Her grave is at the foot of a tall spruce tree which was only a small seedling when Dad planted it.

In 1910 I married John Pendergast in the parsonage of the Methodist church in Innisfail. At that time John and his brother Sam had the Wimborne Post office and store. They sold to Ernest Meers and we moved into Innisfail in 1912. John worked in Hodges grocery store and then he and Jack Marshall had a small butcher shop and finally he worked in Watt's Hardware store (Danny Smith was manager). We lived up over the store with no conveniences whatever. We carried all our water from the next street. I played the piano for the silent movies in the old opera house for almost three years. Stan Forbes was then manager. We also had an orchestra and played for the dances which were held there.

The largest event I remember at the time was the Presenting of the Colours to the 187th Battalion around 1915. There were so many of the young men from Innisfail and surrounding districts in that battalion. There was another big celebration on Armistice Day but at that time the flu epidemic was rampant, which more or less dampened it.

I can remember Miss Jury — she was related to the Smiths' of Horse Shoe Lake. She came to Innisfail from Ontario and was a dressmaker for many years.

Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Marshall and their two daughters came out the same month as we did — March 1903. They stayed in a cabin which was used for a blacksmith shop on a farm until their shack was built. Poor Mrs. Marshall did nothing but cry to go back to B.C. The roads were too bad for them to get their piano out of Innisfail, so Mr. Marshall sold it to Jesse Stewart, a storekeeper in Innisfail. Most of the sale was taken out in groceries. Mrs. Marshall was a practical nurse and in great demand as a maternity nurse.

My Dad sold out in 1920 and came back to the coast. John and I left Innisfail the early part of 1921.

RICHARD BERRY — by Maude Berry

Richard Clarkson Berry married Dorothy Reid on May 27, 1878 at Durham, England. In 1879 they sailed from England and settled in Illinois and later moved to Fraser, Iowa.

In 1903 Richard, his wife Dorothy, and family, along with his brother Joe with wife and daughters came to homestead 21 miles east of Innisfail.

Richard and Dorothy had nine children: Margaret (Maggie) — m. Tom Thompson in U.S.A.; 3 children: Richard, Dorothy, Jimmy.

Alice — m. Geo. Watson in U.S.A.; 12 children.

Dorothy Ann — died in U.S.A. at age 6.

Bob — m. Sylvia Steadman.

William — bachelor; worked in Vancouver; deceased, buried in Innisfail.

Edith — m. John McLeod; Vancouver.

Mary (Polly) — m. Jack Nolan; dec. farmed in K.H.V.

Maude — m. Morris Steadman; Clive.

Esther — m. Roy Cartlidge; Calgary.

I, Maude, was only 6 years old when we came on the immigration train, a mixed train with coaches for passengers and cars for the cattle, horses, and machinery. Many stops were made to feed and water the livestock and we travelled almost a week.



Mr. and Mrs. Richard Berry on Milnerton farm, 1919.

Dad had worked in a coal mine while in the U.S.A. During the winters he worked after arriving here in a coal mine at Cloverdale near Strathcona (Edmonton) and then at Three Hills in his son-in-law's (Geo. Watson) coal mine. This helped make ends meet until enough land was ready for crops. Summers were very short and there was lots of mosquitoes.

Our first neighbors were the Marshall's, Bowden's (who had seven girls), and my Uncle Joe Berry.

I can remember the terrible prairie fires that roared over the long grass in those early days.

It was a long slow process to haul the lumber for our house from Innisfail over the poor roads, especially the corduroy road through the Big Bush, as the first few miles east of Innisfail was known in those days. This was logs cut and layed side by side with a bit of dirt over them, and the road would start to float after a lot of rain.

The schoolmates Esther and I remember at Milnerton school (6 miles away) are Bella, Elsie, Hazel and Hector McArthur, Bowdens and Marshalls.

by Dorothy Johnson

My parents, Maggie (Berry) and Tom Thompson were married in Iowa shortly before my Grandparents moved to Alberta. They came to Alberta and lived for a while at Taber where Dad continued his occupation as a coal miner. When Uncle George Watson traded his homestead at Milnerton for a coal mine 4 miles south west of Three Hills, my parents moved to Three Hills so Dad could work with Uncle George. I was born in 1906 at my Grandparent's home (Richard Berry) at Milnerton. My mother died suddenly in 1912. My 7 year old brother, Richard, stayed with father in Three Hills, but I and my 2 yr. old brother Jimmy were brought up by Grandma and Grandpa Berry.

Grandma was very strict. When she said "Jump", you only asked "How high?". Grandma and Grandpa worked hard all the time. Grandpa usually spent the winter working at Uncle George's coal mine those first years. Grandma milked ten to twelve cows and did other farm chores with the help of those of her children at home. She canned a lot of fruit and vegetables and meat. I can remember the wonderful flavour of her cured meat — there was a smokehouse and willow was burned in it. The cured meat was buried in the grain in the granary to keep and this seemed to give it added flavour.

I can remember picking saskatoons in the Wimborne area. We didn't have much "fun" time, because of work to be done. We went to the Milnerton fair and school picnic and once a year in the summer went into Innisfail with Grandpa to shop, stopping to visit while there with John Pendergast, a relative. We always had to stay overnight in town as we lived too far away to make the trip in and back in one day and after a night in one of the boarding or stopping houses, usually had Grandma put us all through a treatment bath to get rid of unwanted travelling companions. I can remember thinking we'd never come to the end of the Big Bush.



Robert Berry custom threshing. For those who didn't want the straw, this was the easiest way of getting rid of it.

We went to church held at Milnerton school every Sunday — this was the weekly outing looked forward to by all the families as a break from work and a chance to visit. I can remember Mrs. J. Wilson Sr. was a special friend of Grandma Berry's. They only lived about 1/2 mile away. Mrs. Wilson had a real broad Scottish accent and was such a kind person. Up until just a few years ago I had a wooden egg which John Jr. gave me when I was very small. When the egg came in half an imitation snake jumped out.

I attended Milnerton school. My Aunt Esther was just finishing school when I started and I can remember riding behind her on the horse to school. I remember one teacher especially — Miss Flock. She boarded with another aunt, Mrs. Jack Nolan. She seemed like such a pious lady. I went home with her one day to Aunt Polly's and was standing beside her while she was singing a hymn and sewing on the machine. When I put my finger too close and almost had the needle go through it, Miss Flock swore like no lady should even know and I didn't think she was so pious anymore.

My Grandma sewed all the clothes for us on my Mother's Singer treadle machine bought in 1908. I have it now and it is still in good working order. I can remember during the first War that Grandma knit one sock every night for the soldiers, even after she had worked all day in the fields.

Grandpa sold all his cattle to Pat Burns, a short stout Scottish fellow. I remember one time he came just about dinner time and Grandma warned me to mind my P's and Q's at the table when he came in to eat with us.

Grandpa sold his farm in 1919 and moved to Three Hills. The family gathered there in 1928 when he and his wife celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary.

Richard Clarkson Berry was born at Lancashire, England in 1857 and died March 26, 1934, aged 77; predeceased by his wife, Dorothy (Reid) Berry on Aug. 11, 1929. They are buried in Three Hills.

Richard's son, Bob, and his wife Sylvia (Steadman), left their farm in 1928 and moved in to Innisfail to educate their younger children. They had seven children: one son died in his tenth year on Nov. 18, 1917 on the farm; the other six were — Emerson, Merrill, Gordon, Ralph, Morris and Betty. Emerson married and had six children; until his death he

carried on a painting and decorating business in Innisfail. His father, Bob, worked for a number of years with him until he retired. Bob died in Calgary in 1973.

CHARLES BIGGS by Mrs. Clara Rickard

Charles Biggs, my father, was born in Illinois, May 22, 1849. He came to this district about 1897, from Beaver Creek, Minnesota. He filed on a homestead NW2-36-27-W4. He had heard of the good opportunities Alberta offered and he arrived in Red Deer by train with S.P. Fream. The next day they started out on foot and came to "Wavy Lake". It was dry at that time and they slept that night in a haystack in the middle of what is now the lake. In the morning they saw a light to the west and headed that way. It was Farrow Speakmans' parents' residence. They had breakfast with them.

After filing and improving on his homestead, he went to Minnesota and brought his wife Bertha and three children. They arrived in April 1898. They walked out and stayed at Whettams for a week or so before settling on their own place.

Bertha's two brothers, Tom and Teeman Thompson came up here with the family and later the rest of the Thompson family came up too.

Before coming to Alberta Charles Biggs had no formal education, but at the age of 20 years he attended night school and went on through and became a school teacher. He taught school before homesteading in Minnesota and then "tree claimed" — which was planting trees. He did a lot of grafting for others on trees as well as for himself. It was here that Hempkins were neighbors and they later moved up here and homesteaded too. Alvin Hempkin now lives at Edberg with his nephew Hans Brokoff.

Father also spoke of having two lots in the Black Hills of South Dakota at one time and told of the healing qualities found in that area.

We had a lot of rugged times, but the worst time I recall was when our house burned down in 1913 when a lantern exploded. Some of we children stayed with neighbors until my parents cleaned out the chicken house and made it liveable until the new house was built. Friends and neighbors gave us clothes and furnishings and much needed help. It was through a building bee Tom and Teemen Thompson (who were carpenters) got the help needed to build our new house.

To obtain food and clothing my father farmed and raised pigs, milked cows and had many chickens. Mother would churn the cream to butter, then make a trip to Innisfail with it and eggs and trade them to G.W. West for supplies. Mother's spinning wheel would be humming most winter evenings — spinning yarn to knit into socks and mitts for the family. She used to wash clothes for neighbors (walking to and from their place) for 50c a day.

My parents were married in 1893. Mother (Bertha Thompson) came with her family from Norway at the age of 21 years. Charles and Bertha had seven children.



Charles Biggs with his mules.

Mary married Mel Rickard in 1914 and they lived for sometime in the Hill End district where she was struck by lightning in July, 1917. She never did regain her hearing. They had seven children of which two (Ralph and Mabel, Mrs. Shannon, live in the Kevisville district). Mary is now a patient in the Auxiliary hospital in Red Deer.

Clara married Ashby Rickard in 1918. They lived in the Hill End and Kevisville districts before moving to Montana. They returned to Innisfail in 1927. Ashby went to Montana to find work in 1931 and later died there. Clara and her two children, Myrtle and Carl lived with her mother and brothers Cal, Tom and Selven. Myrtle married Cyril Quartly in 1939 and they raised eight children. Carl passed away in 1968 and Clara now makes her home with Cyril and Myrtle Quartly of R.R. 4 Innisfail.

Cal was in the army in W.W.I. Returning from the war he spent some years "horse trading". In the winters he trapped coyotes. Frank Cole and Cecil Moore used to come through the country buying furs, horse hair etc. At the height of the fur business Cal got as high as \$25. for a good coyote hide. Cal enjoyed music and played the violin, accordian, organ and mouth organ well. He used to have a goose that would ride around on his shoulder while he played the accordian. He was farming the home place when he died in 1957. He never married.

Tom farmed and was particularly fond of animals. He played the bagpipes with Frank Laing, Duncan Cameron and Jack McAllister. He remained a bachelor and died of a heart attack in 1969.

Selven was born here in 1901. He never married and spent his entire life farming. He belonged to the Registered Seed Growers Assn. and grew registered "Oilly" barley. He was an early member of the Alberta Wheat Pool and quite musical and played the violin with several orchestras before joining Hammonds' Orchestra. He played with them for over 30 years. He died in 1969.

Tena was born here in 1903 and married Ed Boyd. They have five daughters and one son. They live at Courtney, B.C.

Ellen was born here in 1906 and died of typhoid fever in 1927. She married Arthur Larson and had one daughter Isabelle. (Mrs. Gordon Beck).

There was no school for quite a few years. A small dwelling was built and it made the first Hill End School. The first teacher was Mr. MacDonald. We used to walk across country the four miles to attend school. Cattle ran at large and we had to watch out for the bulls.

Mr. Sam Hornett used to haul cream into Innisfail. He was exceptionally strong and when the wagon of cream would get stuck in the mud, he would just lift it out. He was also known for his double row of teeth.

I was always interested in community affairs and belonged to the Clarendon Ladies Aid and during the war years, Mother and I did a lot of knitting for the War Service League. I also worked with the United Church Women.

Charles Biggs died September 14, 1925, Ellen (Biggs) Larson died in 1927. Mrs. Bertha Biggs died November 7th, 1957. Selven Biggs died June 20, 1969, Thomas Biggs died September 27, 1969. All are buried in the Innisfail Cemetery.

ZANE RYAN BIGGS by Mrs. Myrtle Moore

My father, Zane R. Biggs was born in Crawford County, Illinois on March 29, 1851. Before coming to Innisfail he practiced law. He was accompanied to Innisfail by his wife, Mary and children Wallace, Vernie, Virgil and Myrtle plus the Thompsons. He worked for Jessie Stewart in a store in Innisfail. Wallace and Virgil used to work at the brickyard for Satterly's. I recall Mrs. Mary St. Denis worked across the street for Jessie Stewart.

People I knew so well in Innisfail's early days were: Bob Smith, the tinsmith; I used to chum with Queenie Smith and Elsie Detlor; McRaes' lived in the corner house and Mr. Flannigan was a shoe maker. He had a tall house painted green. Lundys' had the hotel, Miss Playle had a photography Gallery. Mrs. Frank Malcolm and my mother were great friends. The Barwis family I knew well and went to school with the children. I also attended school with the Lauder children and Thomson children. There was a school near the bigger one where the smaller children started.

My Mother was the former Mary Thompson and my parents were married in 1891 in Illinois. Their children were:

Vernie who married Wilbert Gillis. They operated a store and post office at Horburg (near Rocky Mountain House). They had three children.

Wallace joined the 89th Battalion C.E.F. in 1915 and upon his return married Bertha Pust. They farmed east of Innisfail until her death in 1940. He is now in the West Park Nursing Home in Red Deer.

Virgil joined the army in 1915. He was killed in action at Aix Nollett, France.

Myrtle married Ralph Moore in 1920. They reside in Innisfail and have a family of five: Everett, a bachelor living at Ponoka; Walter who farms in the Mount Pleasant district; Lloyd who married Mildred Meeres and they farm in the Mount Pleasant district; Betty who married Douglas Wood and they reside in Calgary; Donald is married and lives in Vancouver.

WILLIAM SHIRLEY BILTON by Mrs. Ernie Hewitt

My first relative to come to Knee Hill Valley was William Shirley Bilton, my grandfather. He was born in Ontario in 1837 and came to this district having heard of the quantities of cheap land in 1892. He came by train and brought a carload of settler's effects with him from Ontario. His wife (the former Teresa Deacon), five sons, two sons-in-law and three daughters accompanied him here.

In Ontario he had been a farmer, a bailiff and constable of Leeds County. In Knee Hill Valley he became a farmer and rancher. He, his sons and son-in-law, all took up homesteads in the district.

Prairie fires in the summer and fall were much to be dreaded by the settlers. After the first school was built the boys were smoking secretly at school. One dropped a match in the long grass which started a roaring fire which spread quickly through the valley. It burnt Biltons' and Maclarens' trestle fences before it was put out. Hi. Hunt reluctantly consented to punish the boys, but on condition that the parents bring them to him. They couldn't be found when this time came.

Tom Stanway hauled the mail from Innisfail to a store and post office that was built near Wm. Gunstons. Supplies were also brought from Innisfail.

My grandfather had brought a considerable amount of money from Ontario from the sale of his farm there and the first job here was to build three log houses along the eastern ridge. One of the biggest hardships was the long trips to Innisfail with horses and open vehicles over bad roads.

The sons' names were: Frederick William, Herbert John, James Maxwell, Charles Hastings and William Shirley Jr. The daughters' were Mary Emma, Jane and Katherine Grace. Fred married Frances Parker, Bert married Annie Morton of K.H.V., Jim married Elizabeth McCutcheon, Charlie married Ellen Coulthwaite and William married Cecilia Marsh of K.H.V. Mary Emma was already married to Hiram Hunt and Jane was married to George Maclaren (Ontario) Kate married Frank Lockwood.

The first neighbors were William Gunstons, Allisons, Andy Beggs, A. Roper, William Hewitts, Robinsons, McGillivrays, Whealons, Stanways, Wynns, Tams and Smiths.

Reading material was scarce. In 1891 Lady Aberdeen, wife of the Governor General, arranged to have parcels of magazines distributed to the settlers often.

Money was — scarce. A cheese factory and creamery were started in Innisfail and milk and cream could be sold to them. Butter was traded for groceries. The first money of any quantity to come was when the railway bought oats for horse feed. This was sold in sacks provided by the railway and used to feed horses used in building the Crownsnest Pass railway.

Early teachers at the school were: Mr. Snowden, Mr. Wrightman, Miss Carruthers, Miss McBeth, Miss MacGregor, Jessie Whiteside, Miss York and Miss

Mokey. In 1906 a brick school replaced the old frame one.

This is a true story told by Jim Bilton: One fall evening a young man rode up to Biltons' house and asked to stay the night. The next morning he showed Mrs. Bilton a \$50. bill — which was a rare sight. Before leaving he docked the mane and tail of his horse (changing its' appearance) and asked the boys to look after it for a few days. The last seen of him was seeing him walk to the southeast. Several days later two policemen rode in looking for the young man who was Harry Cashell. He had escaped from the Calgary jail. He had murdered a man for the fifty dollar bill. He had tied the other mans' body and sunk it with rocks attached, in the creek. Cashell was captured. He was defended by Paddy Nolan, famous for generally winning his cases. Jim Bilton was asked to testify. The verdict was guilty and Cashell was hanged for murder.

William Shirley Bilton Sr. died in 1906, his wife Teresa died in 1926. Both are interred in the Innisfail cemetery.

FREDERICK GREY BINKS by Mrs. Minnie Cunningham

Frederick Grey Binks was born July 30, 1888 at Thornley, County Durham, England. On August 11, 1914 he married Lily Clarke of West-Hartlepool. She was born at Croydon, London on March 9, 1889.

In 1925 they came to Canada arriving in Innisfail on June 24th with their three daughters, Minnie, Phyllis and Joyce. They went farming east of Innisfail on the NE 1/4-4-35-27-4. That first summer and fall Dad worked for Mr. W. Wade who lived a few miles distant. Mr. Wade loaned Dad a horse which was his only means of transportation. Dad cut brush and did other chores for \$25.00 a month.

The following year we put our own crop in, milked six cows and raised chickens and turkeys. Later,



Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Binks, 1925.

Mother aquired an incubator as a more reliable means of increasing the flock.

The long journey to town was an ordeal with a heavy team and wagon. Later, Dad got a buggy which we used with a single horse and later yet, a light team. In winter we wrapped a heated brick to put at our feet or a stone vinegar bottle containing hot water. In very severe weather Dad would go alone and to keep warm he tied the reins to the sleigh and walked behind letting the horses lead the way.

For recreation we played cards around the coal-oil lamp and sometimes to make it more exciting, we played for a small prize — usually a "goody" Mother had made — a gingersnap or a piece of candy.

Mother did beautiful embroidery, and would sell some to augment our income. We all did a lot of work for the bazaars at St. Mark's Church.

The things I remember best about the picnics were the races and contests like pounding spikes in logs for the women and the tug of war for the men, and the Ice cream! We seldom got ice cream any other time.

Money was a scarce commodity, we learned to do with little. We made most of our own clothing. We raised a lot of our own food. I recall the time Dad butchered a pig on a stone boat by the door. To clean the skin a great amount of boiling water is required so the kitchen stove was going full blast and the chimney caught fire. Dad ripped off the wall board, then climbed the roof and put salt down. We saved the house, finished the pig and had fried liver for supper.

Our first two winters we snared rabbits for food. The barn was always full of pigeons. We ate them too, one each.

Our "over the fence" neighbors were the W. Robinsons', H. Densmore's, Charles Hoar, and the H. Klatt family. We helped each other any way we could and swapped wine recipes — dandelion, saskatoon, chokecherry — and when neighbors came we had a wee taste. It was powerful stuff.

We traded in Innisfail, often receiving groceries for our eggs, butter and fryers. We also sold cream to the Innisfail Creamery. We dealt at Mr. G.W. Wests' store and the Murgatroyd Butcher Shop.

Mother passed away on June 25, 1933. In 1940 Dad joined the Veteran Guards of Canada and saw service in many parts of the Dominion. He went overseas with a contingent of German prisoners of war from Lethbridge in 1945. After his discharge he went to live in Victoria where he went to his rest on Sept. 5, 1952. Both our parents are interred in the Innisfail Cemetery.

Their daughters and families are:

Minnie (Mrs. Archie Cunningham) of Red Deer — two daughters, Doreen (Mrs. G. Storck) Calgary, Eileen (Mrs. A. Lawrence) Pine Lake.

Phyllis (Mrs. Tom Cunningham) of Red Deer — two sons. Robert of Calgary and Barry of Edmonton and a daughter Joyce (Mrs. Edwin Herbert) of Calgary.

LOUIS T. BIOLETTI by Cecil Bioletti

Louis T. Bioletti was born at Killbride, Ontario March 5, 1870. He came to this area in 1890 because of the favorable reports from others who had made the journey west and had filed on homesteads. One hundred and sixty acres of choice Alberta land, government owned, looked pretty good to an Ontario boy. It was all for the making out of homestead papers as per gov't contract. This meant the clearing of trees and breaking a specified number of acres of land, building a cabin, digging a well, fencing the land and living on the place six months out of every year. All this had to be accomplished in three years to receive the patent or title to the land.

Lou or "L.T." as he was known, boarded a mixed train and stepped off in Calgary. From Calgary to Innisfail he came on foot. That trip out west took the best part of two weeks. One can visualize a wood or coal fired steam locomotive built in the 1880s pulling a five or six car mixed train leaving Ontario for Alberta. Break downs that would have to be repaired by the engineer and brakemen. The young children when the train would stop would alight to the platform and run up and down. This would continue until departure time when the conductor would announce in his booming voice "All — Aboard". Then would come the time of mothers' counting noses. If some were missing, it was a simple matter to stop the train and locate the youngster.

My father was the first member of his family to come west. His father & mother, sisters and some of his brothers came a few months later. On that same train coming west was a pioneer lady and her family coming to Innisfail too. It was Mrs. Dodd. Her husband had come out earlier to prepare a home for her and the children. The Dodds' and Bioletti's were neighbors in Ontario and descendants are neighbors here in Innisfail today — 83 years later.

When my father was in Ontario he was a butcher by trade. Upon his coming to Alberta, he was called upon by many to do their butchering. He would travel by horseback from farm to farm too performing the necessary veterinary work of calves and colts.

He farmed in several different locations. His homestead was the 1/4 section S.E. of the overpass on No. 2 highway. He sold his homestead before 1900 to J.R. Moore for \$500. (in those days this was a bundle of money). He worked on the construction of the C & E branch of the C.P.R. in this area. He operated Gov't milk skimming stations in both Innisfail and Penhold. He was in the Peace River country before the turn of the century. On the trip north he pitched his tent in Edmonton on the north side of the river where today the C.N.R. station stands. He also started a ranch in the Wainwright area. It was here that he served the gov't. for 5 years in the capacity of superintendent of the south end of Wainwright Buffalo Park where the buffalo wintered.

Father met my mother shortly after the turn of the century. She was Edith Elizabeth Jane Whitelock. She was born in Ontario in 1889. They were married

Sept. 25, 1911. Her parents Mr. & Mrs. John Whitelock were pioneers ranching south of Hardisty. She passed away Oct. 21, 1917 in Edmonton. Leaving to mourn her loss was my father, brothers John aged 5, Ted aged 4 and Cecil (me) a few weeks old. Her sister Bessie was married to Jack M. Dickson who in the early 1890's lived west of Innisfail in the Dickson settlement.

The three sons live in Central Alberta (1973) John married Thelma Soderburg. They farm south of Sylvan Lake and have 2 children. Ted married Margaret Benson. They live in Caroline and have 2 children. I (Cecil) came to live in Innisfail from Edmonton in 1930.

I remember my father mentioning some of the early 1890 - 1900 pioneers. Those I recall are the Dodds, Bill Champ (his brother-in-law), Jack Moore, Dan Morkeberg, Wes Kennings, G.W. West, Stewart Brothers (Penhold), Hugh Ross, Geo Lane, Wells, Lalors, Tams, Sam Hornett, Lundy's, Kirkhams, Flemming, Douglas, Simpson, Shenfield, Potter, Shanks, Whiteside, Satterly, Fred Rogers, McArthur, Doc Lauder, Paddy Nolan, Geo. Ellis, St. Denys, Joe & Sam Harberson, Constantine, Brown, Kemp, Varty and Napoleon Remillard.



Mr. and Mrs. Louis Bioletti, Oct. 10, 1911.

Napoleon Remillards' homestead was located due west of the present High school. West of his building site is Napoleon Lake. A few years ago I obtained a log cabin from his building site and it was built by him. He has his name written on a log inside the building and the year was 1890. I have it in my yard. I have restored it to usable condition and am using it as a museum — thus, the preservation of a link from the past.

Altho' my father would never admit it — according to reports he excelled in wrestling. Being a small wiry man and very quick and active he could give a good account of himself. When my father spent a few winters in a logging camp his partner on the other end of the cross-cut saw was Wes Kennings. Their quota of logs for each day was to cut 200 or more — which

they did. On a deposit slip from the Union Bank there is a place for \$4.00 bills. They also had gold on the deposit slips. Dad received all his schooling in Ontario along with Ed Dodd. They were pals all their lives.

I remember hearing of Hugh Ross when he built his log cabin. He cut down a chosen tree, cut off the required length of log, shouldered it and packed it home. It being a green log and very heavy shows he must have been a very powerful man. Another powerful man was Sam Hornett. He used to come to town occasionally for supplies. When dinner time came he would order two full course meals and polish them both off. His wife used to make most of his clothes — as he couldn't be fitted from stores unless by special order.

There is an old saying "A rolling stone gathers no moss". My father roamed over most of Alberta in the early years. He always had his own roof over his head. The moss he collected was in the form of pioneer livelihood and accumulation of a vast number of friends. What more could any one ask for — in pioneer days or today?

Edith, wife of Lou Bioletti died Oct. 21, 1917 at the age of 28 yrs. Lou Bioletti died in Innisfail March 14, 1954 at the age of 84 yrs. So ends the story of our parents — both of them pioneers.

Postscript by John R. Bioletti

We boys went to school at Wainwright and later at Big Bend west of Innisfail. The last teacher I had at Big Bend was Miss Phyllis Wade and then Miss Ruby Lockhart.

JOHN BIRD FAMILY by Jim Bird

John Bird arrived in 1902 from Scotland to homestead in the Oklahoma district. He was born in 1878 in Scotland. His family had been in the wholesale-retail grocery business in Coatbridge, Scotland. His wife was the former Mary McLaine Baker who came from the same place in Scotland and came to Innisfail to marry John in 1903 (Aug. 2).

It was through P.L. Grass Dad found the land he liked. When Mother came out here, she lived with John Duncans' until her house was ready. Her family came shortly after, brother Allan taking up a homestead S.W. of Birds, brothers Donald and Hugh went to Edmonton. Alex, Jim, Marion and Annie arrived too. Mothers' parents had had a draying business in Scotland and because of the fathers' death the mother and rest of children came here. Later Annie (Mrs. Clydesdale) went to Calgary as did Jim and his family. Mrs. Baker, Marion, Donald, Hugh and Alex went to Edmonton.

The first Roman Catholic chapel in the whole area was on the Laird Place. It was built by Goutier before the turn of the century. Mr. Goutier lived on this land before Lairds. It was a home with one end as a chapel. It burnt down about 1966.

In 1911, we rented from Dan Sylva. This same farm is owned by the Birds today. We rented for thirty-five years and had no papers signed, only an honorable agreement.

Tragedy occurred in August, 1915. We went to the river on a Sunday afternoon. Dad didn't go. Those there were Mother, Jack, Robert, Jim — Grandmother, cousin Peggy Clydsdale (9 yrs) and Mothers' brothers Donald and Allan. We were wading in the water and Peggy went in too far and ran into a hole. She panicked and went downstream. Allan and Donald (neither could swim) went after her. None came up. We got Dad, who was a good swimmer and he and some neighbors eventually found them in 15 feet of water and recovered the bodies.

I recall us buying horses from people who went into the foothills and got wild horses and green broke them and sold them to settlers. Some were buckskin and the last horse we had in 1944 was still buckskin in color. Dad worked out taxes on the road. We hauled wood to trade for groceries as well as baled hay and Mother made butter to trade. Mother in later years, raised many turkeys and chickens. The turkeys were for breeding stock and shipped them all over Canada and the United States. She was particular about the quality of her turkeys as well as raising them in great numbers and was told she had the highest quality in Canada. We shipped cream, milking 10 to 20 cows and would have to have it in to the station in Innisfail by 8 a.m. via team and democrat.

Dad could play classical music on a violin. His close pals were Bill Parkin, E.A. Dunk and Dick Burdekin. Dad died in 1944.

There were 3 sons born to Mr. and Mrs. John Bird: John Primrose, James Allan and Robert Primrose. Jack attended Oklahoma school as we all did then went to the Olds Agricultural School. He returned to work on the farm later going to work for Ewen Simpson where he had a stroke and died at 35 years (1942). Robert worked for McKenzie Aircraft prior to going in the R.C.A.F. in W.W.II. He married Ruth Johnston. He returned from the war going into partnership on the farm. This dissolved in 1953 when he and Jim each had their own land. He died suddenly in 1959 leaving his widow and daughter Karen, who moved into Innisfail and later to Montreal. Jim, (me) started raising pigs in large numbers in 1940. I married Margaret (Molly) Triomphe in Vancouver in 1950. We have two children: Jack (b. 1952) and Donna (b. 1953). In 1962 I started farming our land plus Roberts' (2200 acres) and had lease land. We were one of the first to grow flax and rape in large quantities. We have a feeder cattle, cow-calf operation.

Jack is the third generation on this farm and is particularly interested in cattle. Donna has secretarial training and prefers farm life to city living. Both Jack and Donna can do any part of the farming operations efficiently. The whole operation is carried on by the whole family.

The farm has seen a change from horse and walking plow to the large efficient machinery available today with driers and automated feed mill.

Mrs. John Bird passed away in 1968. She had actively participated continually in the farming operation and had a very good business mind.

STEPHEN H. BISWANGER by his son Edwin Wynne Biswanger

Stephen H. Biswanger was born in Nova Scotia on March 11, 1883. He was a painter, plasterer and carpenter coming to Alberta in 1902 to homestead. On Dec. 29, 1909, he married Mary Annetta Carswell in Penhold. She was born in British Columbia on Mar. 9, 1886, and had come to the Penhold district with her parents in 1889. For awhile they lived in Calgary, but didn't like the city life, so decided to homestead. They came to Innisfail by train from Calgary in 1910 and travelled to their homestead 6 1/2 miles east of Innisfail in a wagon pulled by a team of one horse and one ox which was their means of transportation for a few years until they were able to get another horse. Dad was breaking land with the ox and horse one day and got stuck in a willow clump. When he started chopping some of the roots to free the plow, some hornets in the ground chased him away — then when they stung the ox and horse, they took off, plow and all.

Dad built a one room log house, later adding two more rooms. There was lots of rain and snow in those days with mud holes in the roads and trails. The worst storm I remember was in May 1918 after some of the seeding was done; a lot of the farmers with stock out to pasture lost animals because the heavy snow prevented them from feeding and feed could not be hauled to them.

Quilting and building bees and taffy pulls were favorite activities. One night we were having a taffy pull at our place and when dad went out, someone put some warm taffy on the seat of his chair. Next time he went to get up, the chair came too. 100 lbs. of flour in those days was worth about \$1.25; money was hard to get and dad trapped in the winter and did construction work in the summer. With a good garden and lots of wild meat, we always had enough to eat.

I attended Aberdeen school until 1925 when we moved to the Bingley district. My teachers were Miss Abercrombie, Miss Smith, Miss Fead, Miss Jones, Miss Black — Miss Whealon was the last teacher I had at Aberdeen. School-mates were Biltons, Dan and Hattie Williams, Neil and Mary Laing, Alf and Harry Wade and Morley and Edith Fisher. The Center and Laing families were our closest neighbors. I remember one cold morning we were all grouped around the school stove trying to keep warm and the Laing children were telling us about the night before when they had to keep the window open upstairs while their dad was sitting up all night keeping the fire going to stop from freezing downstairs. Mrs. Bilton, a widow, looked after the women of the district when they were sick or had babies as there was no hospital and not much of a road to go for a doctor.

S. H. Biswanger died Feb. 8, 1973 and his wife Mary died Mar. 3, 1973. They are buried in Red

Deer. They had nine children, eight born at Innisfail: Myrtle Annetta, born Dec. 17, 1910, married J.B. Stewart of Rocky Mountain House; 12 children. Stephen Edwin, born June 15, 1912, married Evelyn Victoria Albert of Condor, living at Rocky Mountain House; 6 children. Lawrence James, born June 29, 1915, married Marie Evans of Leslieville, living at Eckville; 4 children. Marjorie Loraine, born March 6, 1917, married Frank Wickens of Canmore; 4 children. Katherine Etta, born July 14, 1919, married J.E. Lightborn of Sylvan Lake; 7 children. Florence, born April 6, died April 16, 1922. Elsie Carswell, born June 27, 1923, married George Belick of Red Deer; 5 children. Evelyn Louise, Elsie's twin, married E.F. Johnson of Red Deer; 4 children. Verne Roger, born Sept. 2, 1926 at Bingley; married Jean live in Calgary; 2 children.

BITTORF STORY by Irvin Bittorf

My father, John Bittorf, married Elizabeth Stadelbauer. Their five children — Emma, Alma, Irvin, Roy and Gordon — were born and educated in Warton Ontario. In 1907 my father made a trip to Innisfail and visited with mothers' aunt and uncle, Mr. & Mrs. Valentine Schafer. My aunt Tina Stadelbauer who was staying with Valentine Shafers, later married Knut Knutson, a harness-maker in Innisfail. They later moved onto a homestead 8 miles west of Markerville.

In 1911, I accompanied Dad on a harvest excursion; we worked for three months around Yorkton, Saskatchewan area. In 1914, I came again to harvest working different places through the Province. Dad joined me in the spring of 1915 and in 1916. Mother, Roy and Gordon came out and we farmed at Pontex in the dry belt in Saskatchewan.

Roy and I were in the Army posted in England from 1918 to 1919. That fall Roy and I harvested at Indian Head before coming to Innisfail and the Mayton district. We had intended to take up land through the Soldier's Settlement Board, but instead moved our folks to Innisfail just before Christmas and found odd jobs to keep us going. I delivered coal around Innisfail that winter for Charlie Whitcombe. It was in 1921 that our family rented a farm from Sam Cummins and Roy worked back and forth



Gordon, Roy and Irving Bittorf



Cutting wood with their Ford car — Mr. John Bittorf and Irving.



The Bjornson Family

from the farm to Innisfail. Gordon, our brother had joined us now too. Gordon married Joyce Emrick in the fall of 1928 and farmed in Grahamston and Horse Shoe Lake districts until 1936 when he sold out and moved to California. He is now retired in Los Osos, California.

Roy liked town life better than farming. He was a garage mechanic with Ted Jensen and Oscar Lundgren. Roy and I especially enjoyed skating and spent many an hour on a frozen slough or rink. He was very active in all kinds of sports and was referee for hockey games. Roy was killed in a car accident with Frank Leslie and Johnnie Hayhurst in 1934.

I recall the time we were moving from Innisfail towards the Mayton district. It was the 15th of April, 1920 and we had to move with sleighs because of the snow. Roy was working for Billy Wilson at the time and Billy gave him time off to help me take the sleighs with our belongings.

Mother died aged 68, in 1936 and Dad and I stayed on farming with hired help until the spring of 1946 when we sold out and moved into Innisfail. Dad died in the spring of 1948, aged 87. I worked as a carpenter in town until retiring seven years ago in 1916.

I got more pleasure out of our 1918 Ford than any other car I have ever had. We used to chop grain with it too.

BJORN BJORNSON by Gillie T. Bjornson

Bjorn Bjornson was born in Iceland in 1868. He emigrated to Canada coming first to Calgary where he worked for a while at the Eau Claire Saw Mill. In Calgary he met and married an Icelandic girl, Margaret Eirikson; they were married in 1880. Later Bjorn worked for a while at a ranch in Innisfail for Gillinghams, then homesteaded in the Markerville district about 1890. He walked from Markerville to Innisfail to Calgary to work in the winter for \$30 a month and brought \$30 a month home.

In the early years he found the Indians friendly and co-operative. Once he found an Indian so cold that he had to carry him into the house and put his team away for him. The next summer this Indian showed up with his family and wanted to give a gift of whiskey in gratitude.

My father never went to school but could do any type of figures either with a pencil or in his head; when he came to this country he could not speak English. His first neighbors were Gisli Eiriksons,

Morkebergs and Rompkins. Innisfail was our trading center. We brought cattle and hogs in to sell to McMillan & Harbeson and later to Chas. Rollings and Jack Wilson. I can remember the first time I came into Innisfail we ate at the New York Cafe and were served sausage that were too peppery. Meals cost 25c and it cost 50c to keep our horses in the livery barn.

Bjorn Bjornson was a councillor and a school trustee for Heckla school. His wife, Margaret, died in 1909; Bjorn died in 1931; they are buried in Tindastoll cemetery. They had seven children:

Anne — (deceased); married Ed Hall and lived at Stauffer; four children — Ed, Margaret (Fisher), Merium (Robb), Dorothy (Craig).

Disa — (deceased 1972); married Thomas Sveinson, lived at Markerville and Innisfail; five children — Cecil, Margaret (Rasmuson) Agnes (Bordenhagen), Ralph and Norman (twins).

Gunna — married Joe Nordal, no children, live in Seattle.

Margaret — (deceased); married Cliff Burns, lived in Port Arthur; four children — Robert, George, Margaret (Buck), Alfred.



Gillie Bjornson Family: Gisli (Sonny), Gillie, Norman; Margaret, Mrs. Rose, Gail.

Thorberg ('Tobba') — (deceased); married Walter Maxson; lived in Craig and Innisfail; no children.

Bjorn ('B.L.') — (deceased); married Georgina Johnson; lived at Markerville, later Surrey, B.C.; seven children — Darlene and Darwin (twins), Sanja, Loyal, Dell, Marvil, Disa Marie.

Gillie — married Rosa Hubl; resides in Markerville district on his father's homestead and has lived in the same house for 72 years. Four children — Gislis, Margaret (Fitch), Gail, Norman. In 1932 Gillie went down the center of an 8 horse team to undo the lead line which was caught; another man started the horses up and Gillie was trampled by the horses and although badly injured was never unconscious. The next day Miss Dickson helped him to see Dr. Wagner. Gillie donated the land for the Stephannson Cenotaph, curling rink, and Markerville Picnic grounds. He is head of the Picnic Committee for Markerville and a member of K.P.

ANSON OSLER BLACK by Mrs. T. McIntosh (Helen Black)

My father, Anson Osler Black, was born at Stroud, Ontario in 1874. He taught school in Ontario for some years. In 1906 he came west with a survey party and he and his brother bought land in the Little Red Deer district. Mrs. Black was born in Powal, P.E.I. on Feb. 21, 1883. She came west to Innisfail in 1907 to visit her three brothers, J.R., H.B., and Stewart Moore, who were farming in the area. She worked in Fairley's Confectionary and boarded with Westlunds who lived where Jim Hopkins now lives. Anson Black married Marion Elizabeth Moore on April 6, 1909 in Edmonton. They lived in Edmonton where Mr. Black worked as an electrician for the City Power Co. He worked on both the high level and low level bridges during their construction.

During the first war Mr. Black played bass horn with the "Reserve Militia Concert Band", and served as secretary on the Volunteer Fire Brigade. The family moved back to Innisfail in May 1919 and lived on 48th street for three years during which time Mr. Black farmed with his brother Bill at Knee Hill Valley. In 1922 he bought a farm in the Horse Show Lake district and the family moved to the farm that spring.

While in Innisfail, our neighbors were Rev. & Mrs. Lyttle of the United Church, the Norman Feads, Centers, Oxleys, Martins, McArthurs and Lauders. On the farm our nearest neighbors were Pauls, Robinsons, Smiths, Walkers, Gates, and MacDiarmids. We were hailed out the first year on the farm, only leaving green feed for the livestock.

In Edmonton we attended King Edward school; my first teacher in Innisfail was Fay Ormiston. At Horse Show Lake when my sister Margaret and I took Grade 8, we had at least four different teachers during the year, one of them only staying two weeks. Some of our schoolmates were Smiths, Walkers, Lewis's and Pendergasts.

Anson Black died in December 1935. My mother, after living in Lethbridge for some years, moved back to Innisfail and was a guest at Autumn Glen Lodge at

the time of her death in Feb. 1970. She was a charter member of the Order of the Eastern Star, Innisfail Chapter No. 37, and also belonged to the I.O.D.E. and women's church groups. She is buried in the Innisfail cemetery. Children of Anson and Marion Black:

Margaret Eleanor — born in Edmonton 1910; married Allen Moore 1927; five children: Alan — m. Lorraine Johnson; 2 children; Calgary. Marion Elizabeth — m. Les Fisher; 3 children; Lethbridge. Colleen — m. Louis Aspenlieder; 4 children; Trochu. Bill — m. Carol McCalum; 2 children; Edmonton. Linda — m. Doug Gunderson; 1 child; Red Deer.

Helen Elizabeth — born in Edmonton 1911; married Thompson McIntosh 1944; two children: Douglas Fox — m. Margaret Grant; 3 children; reside in Calgary; Richard — of Winnipeg.



A. O. Black and Mrs. Black on their wedding day.

James Alexander — born in Edmonton 1914; died Dec. 1970 and is buried in Memorial Gardens, Edmonton; m. Iris Smith 1936; three children: Robert — m. Barbara Stewart; 4 children; Ft. Sask. Barbara — m. Gene Kushnir; 2 children; Edmonton. Carol — m. Donald Gow; 1 son; Calgary.

Francis — born in Edmonton 1916; died, buried in Innisfail Cemetery.

Wilma Gertrude — born in Edmonton 1918; Calgary; m. Andrew Melrose 1950; three children: Neil — m. Patricia Forest; Toronto. Heather — Vancouver. Murray — at home.

Richard Bursleigh — born in Innisfail 1920; died March 1944, buried Durnbach, Germany.

Stewart Blair — born in Innisfail 1924; Bursar at Bowden Institution; m. Florence Fisher 1947; three children: Richard — of Calgary. Denise — at home. Kelly — at home.

WILLIAM BLACK by Mrs. T. McIntosh

William Black was a bachelor. Born in Stroud, Ontario in 1864, he came to Innisfail in 1919 after being retired from the Toronto Police force. He farmed in the Knee Hill Valley district on the farm now owned by Allan Smith. Mr. Black (Uncle Bill) died in 1934 and is buried in Innisfail.

M.O. BLAIR

Melvin Osburn Blair arrived in Innisfail from Truro, Nova Scotia in 1912 at the age of 21 years. The reason I came was I wanted to take a look at the great Western Canada there was so much talk about. When I got as far as Calgary I decided to give Alberta a try. 1912 was a very bad year — you could not buy a job in Calgary or Edmonton. J.F. Fumerton had a nice store in Innisfail so I talked to him and he said he could use an extra man for the next month or two (for the fall trade). I enjoyed the work and stayed there until 1915. Mr. Fumerton then moved to Kelowna. I enlisted in the 13 Canadian Mounted Rifles and went to Medicine Hat. I married Hazel Alberta Center a daughter of Mr. & Mrs. E.H. Center. They lived on a farm east of Innisfail. I thought I would like to have a ranch somewhere near their district if I got back from overseas. A few days before we left for England a horse threw me from my saddle and injured my back. I went to hospital in Shorncliffe so eventually was in charge of the 2nd C.C.D. Post office in Hastings and transferred to the P.P.C.L.I. in November 1917. Some 2500 Canadians were shipped back to Canada and I was one of them and I got my discharge in Calgary Dec. 31, 1917. I was surely glad to see Innisfail again and my wife Hazel & new daughter Violet born Dec. 17, 1916. Our second child William was born May 29, 1918 and died in 1933. Second daughter Lois was born Oct. 1, 1919.

When I came back from overseas I went to work for G.W. West. I was still keen on getting a ranch and had bought some good milk cows and Mr. Center was taking care of them for the milk. I also had a couple of horses. I was always very fond of animals. Billy, Mr. Centers only son went overseas before I arrived home. There was no fall plowing done so in the Spring I left the store and went to work and assisted Mr. Center at his farm. I had got a restaurant while I was working in the store. A man with two small children had rented the building and started a lunch counter. He knew little about cooking. Baked Beans were his hobby. Farmers had finished their threshing and were coming to town with their grain and saw a new lunch place being run by a white man — This man would run across to Wests' store for something all day long. He did get a woman to come and cook who had learned cooking in France. They got along for a while, but they found they couldn't work together. I finally made a deal with the man and kept the Frenchwoman (Mrs. Urtle). This was my restaurant career.

I farmed the Velge farm for a short time and then went to Vancouver where I bought a little store on Frazer Avenue. I sold this and then went into the Check-writing machine business and real estate.

I have been retired for some time now and reside at Beach Grove, B.C.

GEORGE STANLEY BLAKE by Mrs. S.R. Caldwell (nee Hazel Blake)

My Grandfather, Henry Pixley, and his son William, had been out West the previous year and came back with glowing accounts of the good black

soil with no stones to pick and the word that you could get a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres for ten dollars. (In order to get the deed, you had to live on it six months of every year for three years.) My Father, George Blake, decided to go and started packing. He was forty-five years old at the time and his friends said he was crazy to leave a good home. When they saw he was determined to go, they gave him a coon-skin coat as a parting gift.

He left Sydenham, Ontario on March 16, 1901, in a settler's car loaded with furniture, implements, cattle and a team of horses. The second day out he was pitching hay to feed the livestock when he heard someone cry out. He found two hobos hidden in the hay and he had stuck a fork in one of them. So he had them come out and he shared meals with them. They all played cards and had a very enjoyable time. The trip took over a week as they were sidetracked for all the passenger trains. There were Indians at one station who were selling what were supposed to be buffalo horns. Our hired man spent his last two dollars to buy a set. We found out later that they were varnished cow horns, but my practical Mother used them for a hat rack.

A neighbor's son, Frank Caldwell, aged twenty-three, my Mother, and we three children came by train six weeks later. We were unable to get a berth, so slept on those hard Colonist seats. When we arrived in Calgary, the only available room at the hotel had a broken pane of glass in the window. My mother stuffed our coats in it and we slept four in a bed. The next morning we left for Innisfail.

My father spent fifteen years on the farm at Sydenham, Ontario. He did mixed farming in Alberta and we were never completely hailed out. Our cattle were free to roam the prairies as there were few fences. We sold fat steers in the fall, milked sixteen cows and the first few years Mother churned and made butter. She kept count once and had a thousand pounds in a season. Later on we were able to sell the cream. We also had pigs and a hundred hens.

My father built a frame addition to the old log house which was there when he arrived. Wild game was plentiful and we had lots of eggs and poultry. We could kill a pig when we needed meat and Mother cured the hams. We sent a mail order to Eaton's for our clothes and shoes; whether the shoes fitted or not, we had to wear them. It was just like Christmas when the box from Eaton's came. We had a lot of wild fruit — saskatoons, cranberries, black currants and raspberries, which Mother preserved. She made rosebud catsup from the wild rose haws and you could hardly tell the difference between it and real tomato catsup. She also pickled radish pods. We had a good garden. She baked all her own bread. The only time we had bought bread in the house was the day of our sale, when the stove was moved. She made her own soap and I still have some left.

We had very wet weather for the first few years and always got stuck in the mud both coming and going to Innisfail. So some one in the family always met us at the worst spots with an extra team to pull us out.

Some farm machinery that had been covered with water came to light when the dry years came. We had many hail storms. The horses which we had brought from the East died because they could not stand the change of climate.

Skating, dancing, target practice, pitching quoits, football were favorite sports. I used to go out on a Sunday with my boy friend to snare gophers. Needless to say, we did not get many. The gopher would be sitting up at his other exit watching us. We had an old Victor gramophone, violin, auto harp and mouth organs. We belonged to the Innisfail Library and subscribed to twenty newspapers and magazines. I remember them as very happy years.

We children attended the old log schoolhouse at Hill End. I only had three full years in Public School as we only had classes during the summer months, but I worked on my books and read a lot at home and passed into High School. I believe I was the only one to graduate from the old log school. Later they built a frame one. My school mates were Eliza Niblock, Maggie and Lizzie Wells, Ida and Mabel Snider, Hattie and Rosie Hill, Lily Hornett, Annie and Amelia Hall, Belle and Alf Pye. Miss Flora B. Asseltine was my teacher (she came from Sydenham, Ontario).



Mr. and Mrs. Sherman Ross Caldwell (nee Hazel Blake) in the back seat, on their wedding day, Sept. 20, 1916. Mr. and Mrs. George S. Blake, parents of the bride, in the front seat.

We had Sunday School and in 1914 we started a Red Cross Society. The members of the latter were Mrs. Ted Baker, Mrs. Partington, Mrs. E. Hill, Mrs. Connor, Mrs. A. Ford, Mrs. R. Niblock, Mrs. G.L. Blake, Mrs. Snider, Miss Mina Brush, Miss Hazel Blake, Miss May Pixley. Later on we had a Debating Society.

What impressed me most in the early years was the freedom we had. Later I could not help but admire the way those pioneers faced up to hardships and disaster. They always looked forward to a better year ahead and were very cheerful.

Our neighbors were: Arthur Baker, Coulthwaites, Sniders, Leonard and Sam Hornett, H. Meeres, G. Healy, Edward and Ernest Hill, August Goldstrom, Teddy Songhurst, Bechervaise, Truman Sparks, Halls, T. Eastman, G. Wells, T.J. Kelly, Oliver Langevin. One of our neighbors ordered a suit of clothes in which to go and meet his bride-to-be in

Calgary. On arrival in Calgary he opened the box to try on the suit and found that it was some one else's suit, made for a short man and not a six footer like himself. Since he was to be married that afternoon, there was nothing for it but to wear his old suit. The first thing his fiancée asked was "Where is the beautiful suit you described in your letter?" However, they got married that afternoon old clothes and all and lived happily ever after.

People I remember: Arthur Baker was a very successful wheat farmer. His brother, Monty Baker, hauled the mail twice a week from Innisfail to Hill End. Teddy Songhurst kept a store and post office at Hill End. Horace Meeres farmed and later moved to Red Deer, where he became Fire Chief. Coulthwaites kept sheep. T.J. Kelly, an Irishman, called his farm "Starve Out Ranch in Hungry Hollow." He had his log buildings chinked with whiskey bottles. The Minister took a dim view of it when he came to call. Mr. Lundy was Proprietor of the Alberta Hotel and he owned the first motor car in the district. When he started down the street, every one ran for shelter for fear he couldn't stop. Mr. G.W. West had the general store. Mr. Oldham was the lawyer and Dr. Membry was the Doctor.

George Stanley Blake was born at Sydenham, Ontario, December 13, 1856. He married Ida Barbara Pixley of Harrowsmith, Ontario on November 4, 1885. My eldest brother, George Lionel Blake, went overseas with the 5th Battalion of the Central Alberta Horse. He settled near Innisfail. He is buried at Red Deer; his widow, Mrs. G. L. Blake (nee Harriet Evelyn Armstrong) still lives in Innisfail. My younger brother, Donald Henry Blake, died at twenty-two years of age, in Calgary on August 13, 1920. The year before a team ran away with him and he hurt his chest trying to climb onto the hay rack. Pleurisy set in and then T.B., from which he never recovered, and I, Hazel Mary Caldwell, am the only one left.

My father was a Councillor and later Reeve of the M.D. of Pine Lake. He resigned when he retired and came East to live. He died in February, 1923; Mother died June 7, 1937; they are buried at Sydenham, Ontario.

WESLEY BLENKHORN by E. Grace MacKenzie

Wesley Blenkhorn was born in Kings County, Nova Scotia in 1865. His occupation prior to leaving Nova Scotia was working in the Blenkhorn Axe factory. The first axes being made by: James Blenkhorn in 1850. At times they operated four furnaces and employed 12 or more men. They forged the iron work for the wooden ships built there and cut tools, broad axes, chisels etc. which were required by the ship builders. The double bitted axe they made was known as the "Choppers' Choice" and the "Blenkhorn Chief". They also owned one of the schooners. "The Murry B" for the large business in coal they did. They carried coal from Parrsboro to Canning and other ports. Canning was known as "Apple Tree Landing" prior to 1803. Canning was adopted in honor of George Canning a British statesman. The chain saw having now replaced the axe, there is little call

for the double bitted. This business was carried on for 120 years by the family for three generations.

Wesley Blenkhorn married Alma E. Wood of Woodside in Nova Scotia in 1894. There were brochures coming to the Maritimes telling of the wonderful land and great opportunities available in the Great North West. He left with his wife and family for the West in August of 1910. He discovered there was a farm for sale when he arrived that had a home already constructed in the Hogadone School District. He did purchase this farm and so Innisfail became our town and G.W. Wests was the place to shop.

Alma Blenkhorn was an elocutionist and was a great favorite with her church group and in other social events for her recital contributions and poems. She was skilled in oil painting on velvet and pieced quilts, hooked rugs and knitting.



Mr. Blenkhorn, Harold C., Flora I., Sheldon, E. Grace, Victor D., Mrs. Blenkhorn.

A misfortune happened on his way west — a trip taking 6 days and including the crossing of the Bay of Fundy by ship. He had his wallet stolen containing \$300.00. and was glad his money belt was not so easily accessible. Another tragedy occurred when we lost all our belongings in our home by fire treasured keepsakes, pictures, and a spinning wheel that had been brought out from Nova Scotia — However, with no loss of life, we were eternally grateful as it was an early morning fire with the family still abed.

The first child, Harold C., passed away in 1937 unmarried. Flora I. a teacher married Ernest Sullivan of Big Bend, June 30, 1920. He was killed in an accident and she is now Mrs. F. Dingle of Calgary. Charles Sheldon married Florence McNeill of Winnipeg and he passed away in 1958. E. Grace, an office medical assistant, married Walter MacKenzie from Greenock, Scotland, Nov. 26, 1924. See MacKenzie story. Victor D. Blenkhorn married Ethel Sparks in 1930 and resides in California. Freda M. married Percy Sparks in 1930 and remarried J. McFadyen and they live in Calgary. Gordon W. an ordained minister married Mildred Benedict of Wimborne and resides in California.

Early neighbors were the Robert Lawsons & the John Nielsons. Recreation was, in summer — baseball, swimming (if one could find a slough or lake free of the scourge of "bloodsuckers") and the

community picnics. At the picnics there was the delightful hand or home made ice cream. In winter there was skating on the same sloughs and the occasional skating parties on Nielson's slough with refreshments later in their hospitable home.

We children attended public school at the Hogadone school walking the three miles across country. Early families of the time were Lawsons, Nielsons, E.W. Meers, Arthur Meers, Mr. Brown, Benjamin Milner (after whom the Milner school was named), J.H. McArthur (after whom the M.D. of Arthur was named).

As a teenager, I belonged to the Collingwood Womens' Institute girls club, later a member of the Milnerton W.I. and later affiliated with the Steadman Friendly Circle and the Knee Hill Valley W.I. I continued with these until we retired into Innisfail.

Another well thought of neighbor, a bachelor was James Marshall, a negro. He was a veteran of W.W. I, who bought a 1/4 section in the Hogadone district. His skin was black, but all agreed it was the only black part about him. I recall him playing the part of a negro butler in a local play and agreed he needed no make up! When he passed away, it was discovered he willed his land and other possessions to the Woods' Christian Home.

A very dear friend of my mothers' was Mrs. John A. Simpson — she was her first friend and kindred spirit who helped mother in her loneliness as it was a very different way of life for her from her comfortable home in Nova Scotia.

Wesley Blenkhorn passed away January 31, 1942; Alma E. Blenkhorn passed away on May 11, 1959. They are both interred in the Knee Hill Valley Divide Cemetery.

W. H. BOND by Lucille West

Bill Bond was born in Grunay Centres, Iowa; attended school in Oregon, and learned butchery there. He came to Canada in 1914 and in 1918 came to Innisfail where, in partnership with Mr. E. K. Shaw, bought out the McMillan Garage. In 1919 he sold his interest to Mr. Shaw and managed the Meat Market in the G. W. West store. Mrs. Bond died in Lakeview; many years later Bill Bond passed on.

Children:

Delbert — farming in Lakeview, Oregon

Vesta — married Larry Oughton, Calgary; deceased.



Bill Bond and Bill Daines after the hunt.

Norman — meat inspector in meat packing plant, Lakeview, Oregon.

Maynard — Lakeview, Oregon

Horace — designer of costumes for theatrical companies, New York City.

RICHARD BOURNE

Richard Bourne, his wife, three sons and two daughters came to Canada from Staffordshire, England, in 1885. They settled in Ontario where Mr. Bourne got work as a joiner. Their oldest daughter, Fanny, passed away within a few months after arriving. In 1895 they left Ontario for the west where they homesteaded in the Ridgewood district where Mr. Bourne farmed until his passing. The three sons — Lewis, Richard and Jesse all homesteaded within a short distance of their father.

Children:

Linnie — Mrs. Wanless, Nellie — Mrs. Geo. Lowe; she was born during the time the family lived in Ontario. Lewis — married Gladys Middleton in 1922. Richard — married Leola Derouche in 1920. Jesse — married Mary Ellen Rodgers in 1912. They had one son, John, who farms on the old farm.

THOMAS BOWE by Russell Bowe

Thomas Bowe was born in Yorkshire, England in 1859 and came from there to Innisfail for health reasons, and it seemed that all the English headed this way. He arrived in Innisfail in 1906 coming by train with his wife and 2 daughters and 3 sons. His wife was the former Annie Russell of Scotland. The children were: Reginald, who married Ruth Klitzke, Stan who married Kay Black, Dolly who married John Madden and Peter Bowe who married Kay McNaulty.

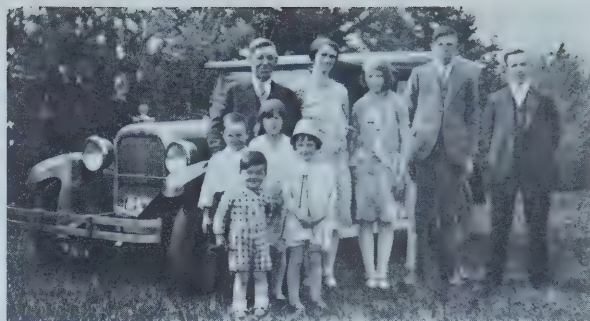
I remember hearing of what was considered a tragic story, that being one year when a binder was bought in Innisfail and when they got it home a hail storm had cleaned out the crop. They shot many prairie chicken, rabbits, and ducks for food and lived in a log cabin. Early neighbors they had were Bill Champs and Shanks. In the early 1900's there was a terrible electrical storm and while cutting hay lightening knocked Reg Bowe off the mower and killed a neighbor by the name of Mr. Howard. Stan Bowe was a sniper in the war. Others that come to mind of early families were the Bill Champs (farmers), Hugh Hodge (grocer), Dan Larrat (farmer), Fred Pennock (farmer), Bert Fry (farmer), Bert Morrall (farmer), Jack Moore (in the creamery and farmer) and Bristol Center (farmer).

Innisfail in the early days was more "Wild West" than other towns. They used to have shooting matches near the old livery barn and there was lots of illegal cow riding in the stock yards.

Anna Bowe died in 1927 and Thomas Bowe in 1945. Both resting in the Innisfail Cemetery.

THE BRADSHAW FAMILY by the Bradshaw family

Mrs. David C. Bradshaw (nee Bertha L. Peden) was born in 1888 at Balmoral, Manitoba. The late David Crawford Bradshaw was born at St. Mary's,



Baptism day at Bradshaw's: David Sr., Mrs. Bradshaw, Alma, Jack, Joe; Bert, David, Ruth, Grace.

Ontario in 1877, and came west in 1920 from Balmoral, Manitoba.

Mr. Bradshaw arrived at Calgary in July with stock and settlers effects. He walked, herding his cows from Calgary to Innisfail, the trip taking about a week. He traded the milk for places to stay at night. The settlers' effects were stored at a cousins place (Mrs. Tom Abraham) until Mrs. Bradshaw arrived with three children: John, Joe and Alma via C.P.R. They had been delayed with whooping cough and upon their arrival in September, settled in a log house by the Little Red Deer river where their pioneering days had begun.

The first neighbours were the Beatons who had the nearest phone, the Duncans, the Holmes, the Briggs and Mr. and Mrs. MacKenzie-Grieves.

The next spring their first Alberta child, (Ruth), arrived along with a two-foot fall of snow in April. Mrs. Bradshaw went to hospital by democrat and came out by team and sleigh.

The trading dollar was hard to come by and was earned by long hours of toil. After moving to his farm on the south half of section 9, TWP 35, Range 1 W5, Mr. Bradshaw expanded his farming operation by adding the SW 1/4 of Sec 10 purchased from George Morton's estate. Their new neighbors were the Testers, Smiths, Davidsons and Thornes.

Mr. Bradshaw and Mr. Charles Richardson together purchased the Grand Champion Aberdeen Angus Bull at the Calgary Bull Sale in the early 30's. This established the pure bred Aberdeen Angus herd now taken over by his youngest son, David, Jr.

Mr. and Mrs. Bradshaw retired to Innisfail in 1956. Mr. Bradshaw passed away suddenly in September, 1966. They raised seven children:

John who farmed with his father and brother, David, until he retired in 1970 to Sydney, B.C.

Joe married Dorothy Marson. He is semi-retired from the C.P.A. They have three children Linda, Allan and Thomas. They reside in Calgary.

Alma is married to George (Bud) Kirkham and they have one son Gary. They reside in Kamloops, B.C..

Ruth is married to John G. Jackson (see Jackson story) and they reside in Innisfail.

Bert who married Margaret Unger. They have four children: Beth, Dale, Trevor, and Lorne. Bert farms

in the Grahamston district and is a government employee.

Grace married Tom Hamilton (see Hamilton story).

David married Marie Dallas and they have three children: Rodney, Dallas and Gordon. They are on the original farm in Little Red Deer "Aberlynn". David was on the Beef judging team from Alberta at the Toronto Royal in 1947, is a Past President of the Alberta Aberdeen Angus Assn., and is presently a Canadian Director of the Canadian Aberdeen Angus Assn.

Grace recalls the time they got their first car. It was a 1929 Dodge. Bill Pendergast (who had one arm) taught Mr. Bradshaw how to drive. In the winter the car was always jacked up for protection in the cold winter. She also remembers when David got his fingers cut off. He put his fingers in a pump jack in the pump engine. He was only 18 months old at the time.

All the children attended the Little Red Deer School and then later attended the Innisfail school.

CHARLES MARTIN BRANDT by Irene Brandt McKay

Charles Martin Brandt was born Sept. 27, 1868 in Decorah, Iowa. He attended school there and helped on the farm. When he was 17 years old he went to work in Great Falls, Montana in the railroad shops, and later he took up farming in Hamlin County, South Dakota, near the village of Hazel.

There he met and married Agnes Elizabeth (Lizzie) Andrus (born 1873), daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Cyrus Andrus, in July 1893. (The original Andrus Brothers were driven from England during the persecution of the Puritans and arrived in America by way of Holland shortly after the forming of the Plymouth colony.)

Grandfather Andrus had come up to Calgary in the late 1800's and bought the Palace Hotel, which remained in the family until about 1960 when they sold it to the city for a new parkade. He knew many of the ranchers in Alberta and from their advice encouraged my parents to come to Alberta. He went to Innisfail and chose a half-section for Dad and Mom in the Big Bend district and we arrived October 20, 1910.

The first winter consisted mostly of repairing the farm buildings and finishing the inside of the house. My dad did some hunting and with the supplies we had brought with us we were never hungry.

We had a mile and a half to go to the Big Bend School, so our Dad made us a box cutter drawn by an older horse and that was our transportation for winter and in summer we walked to school.

Our farm was known as the Brandt Stopping house; in those days all freight and provisions for the little store and on to Rocky Mountain House was hauled either by teams of mules, oxen or horses in big wagons, and every ten or so miles, your place was automatically a stopping house. If we should all be away from home, the people would stop, feed and rest their teams, make themselves some dinner, and leave



Eugene, Jasper, Howard, Mr. Brandt, Mrs. Brandt, about 1912.

25 cents per person in the spoon holder on the table. This money was saved for tea, coffee, sugar, and flour and was most welcome.

There was six of us in our family: Fern, Eva, Irene (myself), Eugene, Jasper, and Howard. Fern married Albert Conn of Big Bend in 1916; they had 3 boys and 2 girls: Gordon, Stanley, Dwane, Thelma, and Audrey. Eva married Ernest Bateman of Big Bend in 1918 and they have 4 children: Allen, Ileen, Norman and Donald. Irene married Lee McKay of Innisfail in 1922 and they have 4 children: Inez, Brandt, Lorna, and Miles. Eugene married Margaret Henderson of Penhold in 1934; he operated a mechanic shop and welding in Eckville, Forshee and Ponoka and in 1947 moved his family to Vernon, B.C. and went into the heavy welding business; they have 8 children: Evelyn, Gloria, Clifton, Keith, Kenneth, Rosemarie, Caroline. Jasper married Gladys Balance of Innisfail in 1933. He farmed in Big Bend until 1934 when moved to continue farming at Bluffton. They moved to Vancouver in 1943 and he worked as a carpenter in the shipyards until 1952 and then moved his family to Chula Vista, California (where he still lives) and continued in the carpenter trade. They had 5 girls: Barbara, Janis, Naomi, Carol and Roberta Howard married Sarah Thompson of Dickson in 1934. He had gone to Oregon for a holiday and in about 1927 stayed on to work. After he married in 1934 he farmed on his own by renting farms and in 1944 returned to Oregon where he did various types of work, among them working for Oregonian News Co. for many years until ill health forced him to retire to Portland where he lived until his death in 1971. They had 3 children: Ronald, Joan and Vicki.

When we moved to Big Bend, John Conn, the Munro family and Bateman family were not far from us. When it rained we would all go outside to run barefoot through the puddles as we never had rain at home in Dakota — its a very dry area there and every storm was a lightning one and hardly no rain and the grass up here was so green and so much of it everywhere, it was beautiful to us.

Most of our living came from the 24 milk cows we had. By selling cream, (seems so little now), we got about \$3.00 an 8 gal. can depending on the price of butterfat at the time. In those early years even a

nickel was money and we could buy something with it and if we got 25 cents to go to the Innisfail Fair, we were really set up for the day. There at the Fair we saw and heard our first Scottish Pipers, Frank Laing and Mr. Archibald, in full dress and such a thrill to us all.

Dad never tired talking about the many new ways of life he experienced here. He was interested in all people and enjoyed the evenings spent with the people from way out west who stopped overnight at our place with stories of cattle rustling which was almost a way of life out there.

We were a musical family and spent many an evening around the organ we had brought with us singing, and as we all played some instrument, we started our own little orchestra later with Dad, Mom and three boys playing for country dances all around home and east of Innisfail.

In 1934 or 35 Dad and Mom sold the farm in Big Bend and retired to a small farm in Bluffton where my Dad died in 1942 and Mom in 1945. They are both interred in Rimbey Cemetery. Of my brothers and sisters, Jasper and myself, Irene, are the remaining family of the late Charlie Brandt.

W. H. BRANSON by R. H. Branson

My father was born Dec. 17, 1864 in Iowa. In Iowa, he married Mary Elizabeth Raymond on October 23, 1889. Their six children were born before they moved to Oklahoma in 1899. In 1909 they moved to Claude, Texas, about 30 miles S.E. of Amarillo to farm, and it was here that two of my sisters married Lust brothers. My mother died in Texas in 1912.

We grew tired of the wind and dry weather of Texas. My father's cousin, Russ Dial, wrote of the Alberta country and we decided to try our luck there. So in 1918 my father packed three car loads of settlers' effects and left for Canada. He was on the road for 16 days because of a stop at every division point and two days in Denver to have the fifteen head of purebred Black Percheron horses inspected and tested for Glanders. Loyal Lust and my brother Dwight accompanied Dad on this trip. I helped my brother-in-law Lust with threshing and other work for 11 days and then got on a train and landed in Red Deer about the same time as my father.



Grace, Milly, Ray and Lois Branson.

When we came, we sold the farm in Texas and got 10% premium on our money at the Red Deer Bank. On arrival in this country we unloaded our effects in Red Deer in 50 below zero weather; rented a barn and small shack a block or so west of where Eaton's in Red Deer now is, and lived there about 8 months until we moved to the farm 15 miles east of Innisfail. While in Red Deer we had to pay \$1 per bu. for oats, 15c a bundle for feed and over \$50 a ton for hay for our horses. About a month after arrival, Loyal Lust's sister died from the flu and he went back to Texas for the funeral and never returned. He now lives 20 miles north of Medford, Oregon.

Our first neighbors were Jim Laydens, George Thurstons, Charley Connors, Jack Haydens, Sparks — Norman and Truman, and Mike Waltons. For recreation we enjoyed playing ball and we took part in various sports.



Branson children on the way to school.

W.H. Branson and sons were members of the U.F.A. and also charter members of the Alberta Wheat Pool. I got a 50 year plaque from the Pool this spring.

W.H. Branson died September 26, 1954 and was buried in Claude, Texas beside my mother.

W.H. Branson's children were:

Dolly — born Sept. 13, 1890; Mrs. Fitzgerald; no children; was a U.S. Treasury employee; died in an accident Aug. 1925; never in Canada.

Grace — born Aug. 11, 1893; Mrs. Lust.

Milly — born Oct. 1896; Mrs. Lust. The Lust Brothers live at Dimmitt, Texas.

Lois — born Aug. 10, 1899; retired in Alhambra, California; she was a nurse and never married.

Dwight — born May 3, 1898; married Myrtena Kirkham Feb. 2, 1927. Two sons: William Herbert, born March 10, 1927; married Frieda Hayt April 12, 1949; four children: Patricia, Dwight, (twins) Larry and Lorne. In Calder district. Wayne Gordon; lives in Calgary. Dwight died Nov. 29, 1943; his wife Myrtena died July 24, 1955; buried in Innisfail.

Raymond (me) — born August 21, 1895; married Maybelle Lucille (Guard) Kirkham on May 8, 1927.

Our family: George David Kirkham (Lucille's son from her marriage to George Kirkham) farmed for a while; his home now is in Calgary and he works in the north country for an exploration Co.

Loyal — lives in Vancouver and works for Lenkurt Electric; 5 children.

Merle — lives in Surrey and is a mechanic and repairman for Kenworth Trucks; married with 5 children.

Ivan — also works for Lenkurt Electric; lives in Vancouver; 2 girls.

Audrey — not married; is a nurse working in Colonel Belcher Hospital, Calgary.

Charles — lives in Bassano; married with 2 sons.

Earl — lives on the farm 4 mi. north of Spruceview and has 4 daughters.

James — electrical engineer with Calgary Power; lives in Calgary; 2 daughters.

JAMES BREWSTER SR. by James Brewster Jr.

Jim came from Kingston, Ontario to Winnipeg in 1877 before the C.P.R. had reached the Manitoba capital. He freighted construction supplies for the C.P.R. to complete the line into Winnipeg. In 1879 he started freighting from Winnipeg to Edmonton, bringing on one trip the first printing press into Alberta.

In 1881 he contracted to supply cattle to the Dept. of Indian Affairs and the H.B.C. post at Edmonton, driving hundreds of cattle up from Montana. In 1883 the railroad reached Calgary. Jim then freighted in Southern Alberta for a time and then started a tie camp on the present location of Banff making the ties for the C.P.R. He left this operation to help during the Riel Rebellion and following this started ranching in a small way at Morley.

In 1887 he married and two years later brought his wife in a covered wagon to a homestead east of the present site of Bowden, land now being farmed by his son, Jim Jr. In the early days his homestead was known as Buffalo Bull Springs. His home, the 'White House' was a well known landmark along the Old Edmonton trail used by many as a stopping house and famed for its hospitality.

After the railroad came in 1891, new settlers came pouring in and some of the Brewster's first neighbors were Robert McCue, William Brewster, James Fletcher, William Greenwood, George Hoosver, Ed. Hartly, Bill Sayeau, Isaac Depencier, Ed. Walton Jr. and E.A. Shenfield.

James Brewster Sr. was born in Kingston, Ont. in 1856 and died in Bowden on Feb., 1937.



Old Brewster Stopping House, 1890.

JIM BREWSTER JR.

He was born in Golden, B.C. in 1898 and resided in Innisfail from 1902 to 1904 receiving some schooling in Innisfail in 1903 from Miss Constantine. He lived in Bowden from 1904 to 1911 and then went to Calgary to go to school. In 1917 he joined the Army — 78th Field Battery and saw service in England, France and Germany. In 1919 he returned to Canada and in 1920 took up farming in the Summit district. In 1925 he married Jean McLaren. They had six children: Mary (Nelson) of Red Deer, Robert Brewster of Calgary, Jim Brewster of Summit, Lorna (Sinclair) of Summit, William Brewster of Delburne and Herbert Brewster of Red Lodge.

Mr. Brewster had one sister Elizabeth (Betty) who nursed in the old hospital in Innisfail in the early '20's. Dr. Wagner was one of the doctors in the hospital. Mr. James Brewster was one of the original councillors when the M.D. of Red Deer was organized, in 1944 to 1949. He was also elected Reeve from 1949 to 1955. Mr. Brewster retired in 1968 and is now living at Bowden. He is a Past Master of the Masonic Lodge No. 42 at Bowden.

JOHN HERBERT BRIGGS by Elsie Matthie as told by Elmer Briggs

John Herbert Briggs was born in England. He married Elizabeth Pearson in Lincoln, Nebraska where he had a small place and gardened. They were both born seven miles apart in Yorkshire, England, but never met until they lived in the States. They came to farm at Dickson in 1909, returned to the States for some time and then in 1918 the family came to Innisfail.

Neighbors were Joe Plaster and Harry Malcolm, the latter was the first to call on them. The fall of 1919 was very wet and miserable. Then in December it warmed up and they stacked the bundles and threshed all Christmas week, getting a really good yield.

Elizabeth died in August 1939. John died Nov. 24, 1946 at the age of 91. Both are buried at Edmonton. They had six children:

Maurice — lives in Edmonton.

Elmer — a bachelor, born in Lincoln, Nebraska, Sept. 4, 1886. He lives on the farm in Innisfail and was a member of Oddfellows.

Harland ('Pete') — deceased. He went overseas from the States near the end of the war. He was an engineer with the CNR and received a very glowing accolade from the company in the prevention of a very serious railroad accident in B.C. in the '40's. He had felt a premonition going to work that night, so as he was coming around a curve in the mountains stopped about 7 rods from a bridge when he noticed some smoke. He climbed out to look and seven bents of piling were burnt out under it. They backed 20 miles to Terrace, B.C. with no one hurt. He was literally mobbed by his passengers when they arrived.

Rose — Mrs. Alex Stewart; lives in Edmonton.

Pearl — lives in Calgary.

Bessie — deceased.

MR. & MRS. NORMAN HOWE BRIGGS by Mrs. Margaret Connon

Mr. & Mrs. Norman Howe Briggs came to Innisfail in 1911 by train. Mrs. Briggs was the former Marie Garland Travers. She was born in P.E.I., April 14, 1879. Norman was born July 12, 1879 in Shoal Lake, Manitoba. It was here that he was a hockey manager from 1907-08. He was a very good curler also.

Marie was a teacher and a nurse in the Prince Edward Island having taken her nursing course in Boston, Mass.

In 1911 Norman Briggs and J.T. Rogers went into the Hardware business here in Innisfail. In 1913 Marie and Norman moved out to the Little Red Deer District to take up farming. They had milk cows, chickens, pigs and a large number of horses. He sold matched teams to Mr. J.G. Kent for \$130.00 a pair. In 1914 you could buy a dozen eggs for 19c a doz. But, in two months time they dropped to 4-3/4c a doz. The butter they made and sold for 20c a lb.



N. H. Briggs and Marie Travers; courting on the woodpile.

During the flu in 1918-19, Mrs. Briggs was kept very busy nursing up at Nat Wrights and at Fred Testers. Then she would come home and milk a number of cows, feed pigs and look after her husband who was also sick.

There were three children: Nan, Ted and Peg (me). I married Charlie Connon of Bowden and we reside in Innisfail. Nan (Mrs. Peters) resides in Australia.

Mrs. Briggs would have most of her garden planted by the middle of April and always had an exceptional garden, the envy of many.

Some of the neighbors were John Holmes, Noble Robinson, Jim Scarlett, John Duncan Sr., Nat Wright, George Calder, John Phillips, Archie Davidson, and Johnston Campbell Sr. These were farmers.

In 1946 Mr. Briggs took a stroke and was bed ridden for 3 years. He had had asthma since the age of 21. February 5, 1949 N.H. Briggs passed away and is buried in the Innisfail cemetery.

Mrs. Briggs did a great deal of travelling around the world and was very interested in all that was going on in the world. She passed away March 2, 1972 at the age of 92 years and is interred in the Innisfail cemetery.

JAMES C. BROWN by Mrs. George A. McTaggart

In 1883 James C. Brown ('Jim') settled in Poplar Grove. (see John Brown story) Mary Ann Arnell of

Warton, Ontario, came west to live with her sister, Mrs. James McCormack. James C. Brown and Mary Ann Arnell were married in 1887.

In Scotland, Jim had worked with horses, which was his great love. He raised a lot of good horses in his years on the farm. In 1893 a Royal Canadian Mounted Police officer made his home with Jim Brown and wife. This gave them some cash with which they paid the premiums on a Life Insurance Policy.

Neighbors were: Hugh Ross and family; Hugh McTaggart — his wife was Jim Brown's oldest sister; brother John Brown, Jr.; Harry Scott and family; William Edgar and family; Alfred Carter and family; and the Watt family.

Jim and Mary had eight children: the oldest, Isabell (Belle) who married Carl S. Hamilton. Mrs. Hamilton is now a widow and living in Calgary. Annie B. married George A. McTaggart and they make their home in Kamloops, B.C. Florence M. married Norman S. McDonald. She is now living in Victoria, B.C. James Percival died in California in 1925. Robert John married Irene Conn of the Big Bend District; he died in June 1966 and she is living in Pincher Creek, Alberta. David Allen married Tillie Dell of Innisfail; they are living in Lethbridge. Margaret P. married George Swann of Calgary; he died in 1968 and she is living in Calgary.

The children went to Little Red Deer school until they reached the top grade there and then to the Innisfail High School or Alberta College in Edmonton. Dave and Rob started school in Edmonton as Jim Brown sold his farm in 1912 and moved to Edmonton.

Jim Brown died in Edmonton in 1914. Mrs. Brown married Alf. Carter in Edmonton in 1918 and died in Vancouver in 1945. She and Jim Brown are buried in Innisfail cemetery.

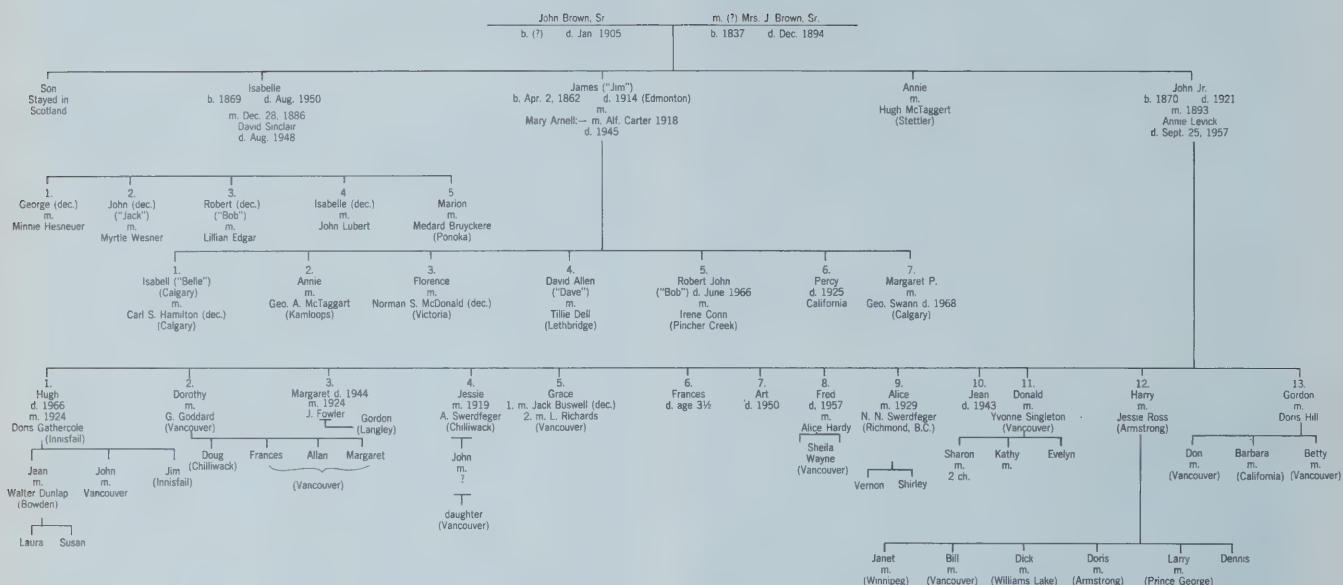
JOHN BROWN FAMILY

In 1880 Mr. & Mrs. John Brown, Sr. came to Canada with their sons Jim and John, Jr. and daughters Isabelle and Annie. Another son remained in Glasgow, Scotland, in business. The family first settled in Ontario.

In the fall of 1883, John Jr., accompanied by his brother Jim, came west, and were the first homesteaders in the Little Red Deer District. John and his brother Jim had been connected with the C.P.R. in Ontario and through them had heard of the great bush land that was here.

Later that year, their young sister arrived to keep house for them — Miss Isabelle Brown was the first white woman to arrive in the district. She travelled from Regina to Calgary on one of the first trains that reached Calgary and was the only girl in a train full of men. Her brother Jim met her in Calgary, and they drove the eighty-four miles on the old Edmonton Trail to "The Spruces" and thence west to the Little Red Deer River. She came to a home with no floor, no windows, and a sod roof.

The Indians of the Little Red Deer valley were never a menace to the settlers. It is true that the Stony



Indians must have looked upon the homesteaders as trespassers or to be more technical, poachers, for this was part of the hunting grounds of the Stonies. The Indians, too, did a bit of shrewd poaching of their own. They dearly loved the settlers' good food and soon developed the habit of arriving at a homestead when the men were away. The timid housewives discretely fed them everything they had in the house.

There were many times when John and Jim had to go to Calgary for supplies — a journey taking several days, and Isabelle would be left alone to take care of things.

All supplies had to come from Calgary by team and wagon, and the mail by stage coach to the barracks of the RNWMP on the Red Deer Crossing, and the address was: Red Deer Crossing, via Calgary, N.W.T. Several times a month one of the homesteaders would gather the mail for "back home" from all the settlers and take it to the "Crossing", and bring back the mail for all. At this time there were no roads and of course no fences, one just followed the line of least resistance and drove across the prairie anywhere. Before the railroad came (the Calgary and Edmonton Railway Co.) in 1891, the stage coach was run weekly from Edmonton to Calgary, leaving on Monday and arriving on Thursday — the fare was \$25.00 with meals extra.

In 1884, the rest of the family arrived in LRD, and Isabelle Brown went to Kananaskis. In 1886 she married David Sinclair. They returned to the district

where they lived until retirement into the town of Innisfail. Isabelle was a charter member of the Dorcas Society founded in 1912.

The Browns were on their homestead during the Riel Rebellion. It was after this that other settlers rapidly came into the district. In 1893, when John Brown, Jr. married Annie Levick, the following was printed in the "Calgary Tribune": "An Epidemic of Matrimony: Marriage is now all the rage. On Wed. last Nov. 1st, our old friend John Brown took to himself a wife. For some days before the event the Brown homestead was a scene of busy preparation for an evening of unexampled hospitality and jollification. The Browns are the oldest settlers in the district. In the old days of 1885, and 1886, they and their neighbors, Messrs. Alf Carter and Sandy Frazer, the Miller Bros. and G. Ross were the only dwellers in this section of the country. They were married by Rev. Spear. The bride looked lovely in a wedding dress of French figured cashmere, most elegantly made and with blue silk let-in. Mr. Alex Sinclair was best man, Miss Patton acted as bridesmaid while Mr. James Brown gave the bride away. After a short breathing space and some music, dancing was commenced to the excellent time of Messrs. Karr, Wilson, and Mr. John Brown." It is the same violin that was played so many years ago that John Brown's grandson Jim now has and plays for special occasions. It is believed that Mr. John Brown Sr. brought this violin with him from Ontario. In 1888, Mr. Jim Brown married Miss

Mary Arnell in Calgary and came back to their Little Red Deer home riding behind a pair of mules.

The Brown brothers brought a car load of milch cows from Ontario shortly after their settlement, and these cows gave phenomenal returns owing to the unlimited pasture. For 22 years, Annie Brown filled a contract with the CPR for 200 lbs. of butter per week to the Hotel Sicamous and Field, B.C. This butter was shipped every Saturday, rain or shine.

John Brown Jr. had the first threshing outfit (steam) in the district, and the family threshed for miles around. Every Thursday was 'chopping feed day' at the Brown's. As a young lad, Hugh was allowed to stay home from school to help his Dad. It was a busy day for Annie as a number of farmers would stay for dinner. Until the school was built, Sunday School and Church services were held in the Brown home. Mrs. John Brown was the organist for many many years.



John Brown Family (Family Tree at beginning of Story)

Mrs. John Brown Sr. was born in Oban, Scotland; married in Glasgow in 1846, and died in Innisfail in Dec. 1894. John Brown Sr. died at his son Jim's home in Jan. 1905. It is now only Jim Brown, Hugh's youngest son, who still lives at Innisfail with his mother (Doris Gathercole). Jim remembers his father, Hugh, telling of the great occasion when he was a child and the order from the Eaton's catalogue came — one can imagine how large an order that must have been for twelve children! He told of how in 1901 no trains were running — the section men went on strike; this might be the first strike to take place in Alberta.

Hugh and Dorothy's first teacher in the Little Red Deer school was Mr. Meyer in 1901. In 1902 it was Mr. Newland and in 1904 it was Mr. Hammon. Before Donald was old enough to start school, the family moved to Armstrong, B.C. because of John Jr.'s failing health. After serving in the First World War, Hugh returned to LRD and worked for George Calder, later purchasing land from him. This farm was sold in 1968 to Roy Graham. Hugh's son Jim owns the old Levick farm, but lives and works in Innisfail.

JOHN L. BROWN by Doris Eliuk

John L. (this initial was added for identification as there were so many Browns around Innisfail when he came) Brown was born near Belfast, Ireland in the

county of Antrim and died near 80 years of age in 1935 in Washington, U.S.A. He was taken to Glasgow, Scotland when about one year old and learned the cobbler trade in Scotland as a young man. He married Margaret Watson from Ayre, Glasgow, Scotland. In the year 1886 they moved with their family of four and John L.'s father to Conway, N.D. Beset with many blizzards and the death of his father, he moved the family to Argile, Minnesota. Three years later they came to Innisfail, in the spring of 1899.

They homesteaded seven miles north-west of Innisfail and had to ford the Red Deer River at that time (no bridges). Although he homesteaded, John was also Innisfail's first cobbler, operating a shoemaker shop on the north side of main street. In 1908 the family moved to Spokane, Washington where their son Dick had settled. John's son, William, was the only member of the family who remained in Canada, having lived all his life in the Innisfail district until his death in 1955. Many farmers in the district will remember Bill and his threshing crew who each fall for many years went from farm to farm finishing up the harvest for his neighbors. He also operated a cheese factory for several years at his farm on the banks of the Medicine River, making the cheese with milk produced from his dairy herd.

William Brown married Julia Letourneau in 1905. They had ten children: (four died at an early age)

Margaret Mae, who married Chris Sigurdson farmed north of Markerville. Their family consisted of two girls and three boys: Norman, Doris, Franklin, Elmer and Wilma. Doris married George Eliuk and lives one mile west of Innisfail with their two children, Susan and Sheldon.

Henry farmed for a time north of Markerville, then moved to Carstairs where he operated a dairy and mixed farm. Members of his family were Audrey, Sandra, William, Howard, Robert, and Charles.

Florence (Mrs. Eldo Flake) also farmed in the Markerville district west of Innisfail. They had a son and a daughter — George and Cheryl.

Charles operated a blacksmith shop in Markerville. He and May had two sons, James and Roy.

Howard farmed with his father for a time, then moved to Lethbridge to continue his mixed farming operation. He married Muriel Firth and had three sons and two daughters — Joyce, George, Lyle, Clifford, and Dorothy Mae.

Nellie (Mrs. Duncan McDougall) lived in Red Deer with their five children — Moira, Marilyn, Norman, David and Ronald.

A.C. BROWNE STORY as told by Elmer P. Brown in March 1973

My father A.C. Browne was born in Renfrew County, Ont. on Oct. 8th, 1854. Having heard of the prospects here he decided to investigate. He came all the way by train, arriving here in Innisfail on June 21, 1891 on the newly constructed C & E Railway. Father had worked in the lumberwoods mostly while in Ontario, then homesteaded soon after he arrived

here. He did carpenter work and any odd job while performing homestead duties and after.

During those early years it was difficult to keep the wolf from the door, but we always had a good garden and soon acquired a good cow so that we had a good portion of our food supply without buying, but as with so many others, we often were granted credit by the late G.W. West.

Our parents were married on April 7th, 1880. Mothers maiden name was Eliza Caroline Patterson. She was born in Perth in 1855. She took her schooling there and later worked in her brothers drug store.

There were four children: Eliza, Wilfred, Lucy and Elmer (Myself). Eliza was the only one who married. Our first and only really close neighbors were the Biolettis when we lived on an acre of land which my father bought from Arthur Bioletti and on which he built a two story house made of large hewed spruces with a shingled roof.

Our first winter that of 1892-3 was a severe one, starting in early Oct. with a heavy fall of snow which stayed on the ground and caught pitted potatoes ungathered. Mr. Bioletti I recall had two pits of frozen potatoes that he gave to some Indians who dug them and I am quite sure that these frozen potatoes saved the lives of those Indians. I remember too seeing many bands of Indians going past our home with bows and arrows getting rabbits. We would see them return with the rabbits tied and on a pole carried by two Indians — sometimes as many as 30 rabbits being carried. The Indians seemed to be camped mostly near Napoleon Lake.

We lived on the acre in town the first 7 1/2 yrs. then went out to a homestead that Art McAllister is now on.

I think I was most impressed in those early days by the variety and beauty of the wild flowers many of which grew in abundance. Recreation in the early days was not neglected though it consisted chiefly of baseball, some cricket and of course lots of riding was done. Concerts were always looked to events. I will attempt to give names of those who attended school here during the mid and late nineties: Bioletti, Burns, Barwis, Browne, Constantine, Curry, Cooke, Detlor, Gillingham, Kremer, Lauder, McClure, Playle, Powell, Smith, Stiles, West, Wynne, Wilson and Staples.

The Gillinghams were a family of interest as Mrs. Gillingham was a daughter of a wealthy Japanese Tea Planter. They built a three story house where John Wilson Sr. was later. They had eight children and all looking very Japanese. I went to school with some of the boys and remember how musical and intelligent these children were. The oldest boy, Tom, used to play the mouth organ and at the same time an auto harp. People used to dance to his music. Tom was four years older than I.

The Innisfail Agricultural Society and the Presbyterian Church were the principal interests of our family in the early years. Today, I am a member of the Presbyterian Church, the Friendship Club and

the Innisfail Historical Society to whom I am indebted for the privilege of recording this bit of local history.

A highlight I remember was when Mr. Jim Barwis who had the first stock saddle made in Calgary gave me the honor of riding a distance of perhaps 100 yards while the gentle horse was led — I being the ripe old age of eight.

GEORGE MARCUS BROWNELL by Mrs. W.H. Huss (nee Georgina Brownell)

George Marcus Brownell, my father, was born in Co. Meath, Ireland in 1887. He was an Irish farmer's son, the oldest of eleven children, and as far as I know he always worked on the home farm in Ireland until, like many other young men from the British Isles at that time, he struck out to seek his fortune in the new land of Canada. He emigrated in 1912 and worked in various parts of Alberta for three years. He came to the farm now owned by Allen Saunders in KHN, in 1915, which he rented from a Mr. Murray.

In 1916 my father married Esther Elizabeth Moorhead of County Longford, Ireland. She came to Canada to be his bride after a six year romance. In 1918 my folks bought the north half of section 9 (where Jack Mundie now lives), and in 1920 built a new four room house, of which we were very proud. My sister Kathleen (now Mrs. Wilbert Gerrard) was born soon after we moved there. Mother and Dad continued to live and farm there until they sold out and moved to Innisfail in 1957.

Steadman school was our school, church and recreation centre. The Christmas concert was perhaps the biggest event of every year. Oh, how we practiced! Every detail had to be perfect. When the eventful night arrived, I knew my own lines and most of everybody elses. Wires were strung, and the curtains were up (each family brought a bed sheet for this purpose). The chairman was selected (usually Mr. Martin Gordon) and the tree was up just loaded with gifts. It was wonderful.

The Reverend Orton was the first minister I remember — he brought us summer services; for



Mr. and Mrs. G. Brownell, taken in Montreal after their wedding on June 14, 1916.

many years we had student ministers in the summer time.

My dad or Billy Bilton fiddled for the dances which were held in the school. Some of our first neighbors were the Saunders, Gerrards, Mundies, MacKenzies, Whites, Spenselys, Naylor, Powells, and many others. Knee Hill Valley was practically the only world we knew.

There were two girls in our family: my sister, Harriet Kathleen, married Wilbert Gerrard in 1947. They reside in KHV and have two daughters, Beverly and Joy. I (Georgina) married W.H. Huss; we live at Lacombe and have one son, Keith William. Harriet and I attended Steadman school. Teachers I remember are Miss Marjorie Tindall, Miss Emma Krause, and Miss Alice Bilton for the last six or seven years of my schooling. I have spent a good deal of my life teaching school, and never, never would have got my High School had it not been for the assistance given by Miss Bilton. I studied Grades X and XI at home and went down to the school after hours where she spent many hours of her time helping me.

My father passed away in 1965 and is buried in the Innisfail cemetery. My mother is now residing in the West Park Nursing home in Red Deer.

DAVID AND AGNES BURNS AND FAMILY by David Burns Dickson

David and Agnes Burns and their children, Maggie, Janet and James, came together with the Dickson, Barclay and Burns group in 1892. Agnes was a sister to Janet Dickson and Tom Barclay. David had been a draper in the old country. They homesteaded, all three families adjacent to one another, 4 1/2 miles S.E. of Innisfail. They remained on the homestead for several years and then sold to Mr. Murgatroyd and moved to Edmonton where Janet and James both taught school. Maggie never married. James returned to Scotland and married a girl there, Mary McKeckrin in 1926, and brought her out to Canada. She stayed only a few years and returned to Scotland with their young son Kenneth. James went to Scotland every summer and Kenneth came to Canada for a time to work for the Ontario Hydro. He is married and living in Wales. Janet married Jack McKinnon, they had a son David and a daughter Agnes, who reside in Edmonton.

David and Agnes, Maggie and Janet are buried in the Edmonton area. James is buried in Scotland.



Agnes and David Burns with Janet and Samuel Dickson, Sr. on the Dickson homestead.

CHARLES FREDERICK BUTLER by Alys (Butler) Tams

Mr. & Mrs. Butler and four children arrived in Innisfail in the fall of 1905 from Vancouver, Washington. Charles F. Butler was born in Lincolnshire, County, England, and married Maud Violet Farnsworth of Lincoln County, Kansas. Father was lured to this country by ads in the papers — "160 acres of land for \$10." He always wanted to farm, but until coming here had been a commercial fisherman.

A few of dad's humorous sayings were — "smell the cheese and eat the bread", and if we children complained about the meat being tough, he would say "It's tougher where there is none", with a smile on his face.

Our first neighbors were the Armitages, Websters, Moores, Chutes, Waltons, and Darraghs in the Mount Pleasant district. When we needed food or clothing, Mother and Dad and all the family would go for the day, packing picnic lunches in the wagon. The children would have a wonderful picnic all day long while mother and dad would shoot muskrats in the small sloughs around Pine Lake, stretch and clean the hides, and then take them to Mr. C.E. Atters' Store to trade them for goods. Mother was just as good at shooting the 22 as Dad and was more adept at cleaning the hides. When the saskatoons and raspberries were ripe in the big bush around Knee Hill Valley, mother and all the kids, along with neighbors, would hop into the old wagon again for the day to pick berries and picnic.

Mother was also a good seamstress and made clothes for all of us six girls which were the envy of the neighbor girls. Some lady made a remark that she didn't know where the money came from to make all these clothes. They were made from hand-me-downs, but we never let on. Mother was a teacher and taught us all before we went to school; because of the cold weather, there was no school during the winter.

Our oldest brother Ted made a sleigh and put sails on it, and we would fly over the freshly frozen lake before the snows came. In the summer, we swam in the same lake. We were all taught to swim by our Dad, who was a very strong swimmer. Many a hot day after school, we cooled off with a good swim. We used to make clay animals and ornaments from a clay which we found near the lake.

The grass was so tall and dry that we were always afraid of prairie fires and had fireguards around the buildings. Our house was made of some lumber and logs with sod roof and sides, which kept it warm. Mother papered it quite often with newspapers which could be read on the wall by the children at any time.

I attended Mt. Pleasant School up to Grade 8, when we moved to the Westholm district and lived in 'The Spruces', now a museum in Innisfail. I belonged to the Aberdeen War Service League, which later became known as the Aberdeen Welfare Workers, along with Mrs. W. Champ, Mrs. R. Peasgood, Mrs. Dan Larratt, Mrs. R. Bowie, Mrs. Tony Fox, Mrs. Jack Giolma, Mrs. Aubrey Scarfe.



Charles and Maud Butler and little Annie taken in 1899.

My father, Charles, spent ten years as a British Soldier in India before coming to the United States; and he was also with the 187th Batt. 1914-18. Brothers Robert and James were both in the Air Force in WWII. Jim spent six months in POW camp.

My father, C.F. Butler, died May 1930, buried at Rocky Mountain House. Mother died in 1943 at Calgary.

Children:

Eugene Arthur 'Ted' married Kathleen Loutett and lived in the north for many years. They have two sons, Arthur and Norman. Ted and Kay retired in Calgary.

Crystal Lolita married Frank McKee. Crystal now lives in Red Deer. One daughter, Irene married Al Spurvey; lives in New Westminster; Son Donald McKee married with 5 children; Don is in the Navy, lives in Victoria.

Alys Eileen married Frank Tams; 5 children; see Tams story.

Violet May married Clifford Owcock; two children Sandra and David; all live in Calgary where Clifford is still teaching school.

Kathleen Isabel married Andy Hall; one daughter Patsy. Kathleen was killed in a car accident in 1942.

Dorothy Maud married Bill Richardson; five children; live in O.K. Falls, B.C.

Robert Leslie married Eleanor McIntosh; two children; live in Calgary.

Dora Thelma married Jasper Jaspersen; one daughter Diane; live in Calgary.

James Lynde married June Brown; three children — Kathleen, Jay and Jeff, live in Calgary. Jim is a TV announcer and known to many Albertans.

GEORGE EDWARD BRYAN by Roy Handford

G.E. Bryan was born Sept. 10, 1865 in Lincolnshire, England. At the age of 13 yrs. he joined the International Telegraph Co. as a messenger boy and soon became a full fledged "telegrapher". In those days, the telegraph key was the main source of communication. In 1884, he resigned from this company and went into business for himself. He operated a public house known as the "Ingleby Arms".

In 1887 he married Ethel Johnson of Gainsborough, Lincolnshire. She was born Feb. 8, 1866. They came to Canada in 1888 where he first got a job

on a sheep ranch near Calgary. When the sheep were corralled for the night he would go by horseback in to Calgary and learn the difference between the C.P.R. code and that of the International code. It was in 1890 that he received an appointment as a station master. In 1891 he spent a short time as relief operator in Innisfail. He liked the district so well that he decided that some day he would come here to live. After serving as station master in Laggan (Lake Louise), Strathmore, Palliser, Golden, Morley and Gleichen he rented a farm near Langdon. Here the family lived for 2 yrs. It was here that two of his family were born. When George E. Bryan was away as a relief operator, his brother-in-law, Robert Johnson, managed the place.

In 1896 he was appointed the station master for Innisfail. Once here, he proceeded to buy some land. He got a quarter section, which bordered the village of Innisfail through Paddy Nolan. The quarter was nearly equally divided from east to west by the C.P.R. tracks. The south portion of this farm is now the Innisfail Commercial area. The farm was called the "Grange".

George E. Bryan moved his family into the log house that was already on this property before he retired from the C.P.R. in 1901. He retired rather than be transferred some place else.

The old house was the scene of many social events. In the late 1890's or 1900 George Bryan bought a Dominion piano and two daughters took lessons from Mrs. Boucher and became accomplished players. These were Phyllis (My mother) & Marjory. Both put in their term in playing the organ at the Anglican Church. I now have this same old piano.

George Bryan loved horses and through the years raised a lot of them. His Suffolk Punch Stallion sired many a colt for him and for others around Innisfail. He had his personal saddle pony which was in her thirties when she died. In the early years before the first world war, his horse corral was often the scene of activity on a Sunday afternoon when some of the local bronc riders came up to test their skills against that of some of his unbroken stock.

During his life in Innisfail George Bryan served on the council, school board, and was Mayor. After



Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Bryan

retiring from the railroad he was associated with P.L. Grasse in the auctioneering business. Later he was employed by G.W. West in the lumber section. He was in real estate and in the late 1920's was the manager in the old theatre with Jack Miller as projectionist. He started with the silent pictures and later going on to the talkies. The first talkie had a picture on the reel and the sound on a paper gramophone record. They didn't sound too bad if the operator of the gramophone and the operator of the projector got started at the same time.

In 1904 he was one of the board of directors of the Innisfail Agricultural Society. It was during the Boer War he received the news over the telegraph key and passed it on to the community.

The young fellows from the Bank of Commerce, mostly Englishmen and whom my grandfather deemed fit young men to meet and cohort with his daughters were among those who were invited to the social affairs held at the "Grange". An Uncle of mine worked at the bank and when his brother (my father) came to Innisfail in 1909, he became another to get an invitation to this looked-for social event. So it was here that my father and mother first met.

Mr. & Mrs. G.E. Bryan had 8 children: Phyllis (Mrs. J.W. Handford) who died in 1972 in Innisfail; Marjory (Mrs. M.H. Allwork) who died in Vancouver; Dorothy (Mrs. E.H. Mitchel) who resides in Vancouver. Greg (killed in WWI), Denis (died at Vancouver Island). Alan who died in Innisfail, Kathleen (Mrs. J.B. Giolma) who resides in Invermere, B.C. and Octavia (Mrs. Doug Savage) who died in the mid '30's.

George Bryan died in Vancouver where he retired in 1940 at the age of 84 yrs.

Having buried my mother and looking backward into the past, I see her on the prairie near Langdon with a younger sister watching to see that no coyotes came near the sheep. If they did she was to blow a whistle which hung on a cord round her neck. Her father and uncle were putting up fence not too far away and this would advise them to come with the rifle and shoot or scare the coyotes off. The next scene I envision in my mind is when the family had moved to Innisfail. In the year 1900 the inflow of settlers was prolific and the C.P.R. station was a busy place. The station platform was seldom free of furniture, household effects, implements, food and barbed wire. There were two or three trains a week and on no-train days the children were allowed to take the hand-pumped scooter and go for a ride along the track. In the fall there was berry picking. In these activities I see my mother taking part with great sincerity and pleasure.

ROY DENYS BRYAN by Iris Fandrich

Roy Denys (Den) Bryan was born April 9, 1897, in Langdon, NWT. His parents were born in Lincolnshire, England, and his father worked for the CPR. He came to Innisfail in 1897 with his parents, three sisters and a brother, when his father was transferred there by the CPR. On July 28, 1920, Den married Margaret Luella Center, born Dec. 4, 1898

on the Center homestead, 6 miles east of Innisfail in the Aberdeen district. Luella had attended school at Aberdeen and High School in Innisfail, during which she boarded at the J. R. Moore residence 1/2 mile east of town. She took her teacher's training at Calgary and taught at Clarendon and Gordon schools. For six months after her marriage to Den, she taught at the Buffalo Creek school.

Children of Den and Luella Bryan were:

Luella Elaine, born 1922; married Archie Murgatroyd; they now live in Victoria.

Margaret Iris, born 1923; married Edward Fandrich; they live in Medicine Hat.

Millicent Ethel, born 1925; married Reginald Franklin; live at Maple Ridge, B.C.

Gregory, born 1928; married Trudy Horn; live at Courtenay, B.C.

Patricia, born 1928; married Allan Rourke; live at Slokan, B.C.

John Denys, born 1934; married Marjorie Phillips; live in North Vancouver.

Robert Wayne, born 1936; married Heather McDonald; live in Victoria.

Edward 'Ted' Blair, born 1937; married Roberta 'Bobby' Archer; live in Richmond, B.C.



Roy Denys Bryan and Margaret Luella Center July 28, 1920; attendants — Alan Bryan and Fay Sherwood.

Den Bryan enlisted early in WWI as a bugler, went overseas with the 12th CMR's; was wounded twice, reached Sergeant's rank. He returned to Canada in 1919 and after his marriage to Luella, farmed 3 1/2 miles south of Innisfail. The local troop of the 15th Canadian Light Horse (later Alberta Light Horse) was formed in 1928 and he was C.O. with the rank of Lieut. His wife Luella, died December 22, 1937 at Innisfail. When WWII broke out, Den was a Captain and mobilized with the 1st Co. Calgary Highlanders training at Calgary and Shilo, Manitoba before going overseas in August 1940. He returned to Canada in Nov. 1942 and was posted to Shilo as C.O. at the Canadian Infantry Training School. After WWII, he married Barbara Burnett and they had one daughter, Anne. He retired in 1946 with the rank of Lt.Col. and moved to B.C. When at Innisfail, Den had been a choir boy at St. Marks Anglican Church under Fred Rogers. He was later active as a charter member of the Canadian Legion serving a term as President; and was a member of the Masonic Lodge. He died on March 26, 1965 and is buried at Courtenay, B.C. Mrs. Barbara Bryan now resides in Vancouver.

ALAN BRYAN by W.G. Bryan

My father, Alan Bryan, was the third son of George E. and Ethel Bryan. He was born at the C.P.R. station-house in Innisfail on December 30, 1898.

He was educated in the schools in Innisfail having attended school where the curling rink now stands. He was employed by the Bank of Commerce, serving in Innisfail first, then going to Claresholm, and Fisk, Saskatchewan. He returned home to take up farming with his father. He was in the Anglican Church Choir here along with his brother Den and Jack West. Freddie Rogers was the choir leader at that time. Attending school with him were Luella Center, Pete Bowe, Reg Geary and Reta Cole.

Alan Bryan married the former Margaret Dewar Gordon in Innisfail in 1921. Mother was born in Scotland and came to Canada in August of 1907 with her parents, brother, Robert, sisters Belle (Mrs. Baird of Calgary) and Isabelle (Mrs. Sharratt) who returned to England in later years.

When my parents were first married they lived one half mile east and three miles south of Innisfail on a quarter section of land. We always had a few cows. We did most of the farm work with horses in the early days. Mother was a good cook and always had lots of vegetables and wild game which my father mostly got in the winter.

Father was a very good hunter and enjoyed going hunting more than anything else. The first time he went big game hunting was in 1928. He continued this sport for many years. Some of the early-day hunters that would accompany him were: John Carr, Bert Fry, Charlie Snideman, and Lester Wagers. Those who went with him in later years were: Dr. Wagner, Max Edgar, Jack Thompson and Brian Kelly. In the early days, they teamed up west of Rocky Mountain House with wagons and had to ford the North Saskatchewan River as there wasn't a bridge then.

My father did custom threshing and breaking with a 22" Case Thresher, a Waterloo Boy tractor with a John Deer Breaking plow. In those days they used to stack and thresh all winter as there were so few machines to get everyone looked after.

Children born to Alan and Peggy Bryan were: William George (Bill) in 1922; Helen (Mrs. Hunt, deceased, born in 1923; Gilbert born in 1925; Doreen born in 1929; Stan born in 1931; Audrey born in 1933; and Norman born in 1940.

I recall my father proved the point that well trained horses can find their way home in storms or any type of conditions. One time he upset his sleigh a mile from home and the horses came home themselves — without the box and without my Dad. It was blowing a terrible blizzard. Dad came walking in later and I might add, he was about frozen.

The first neighbors to my parents were the Milton Oxtobys', George Cunningham, Charlie and Genivieve Cunningham, the John Carrs, Clarence and Dora Carr, Ethel and Roy Oxtoby and George Oxtoby Sr. All our neighbors were very kind to us. All of us had to walk to school and many the time some of these wonderful neighbors we had, would

stop and pick us up. We walked 3-1/2 miles to school in Innisfail and when it was really cold, we often would stop in at Roy Oxtobys and get warm before continuing home.

I remember the time that Mrs. Milton Oxtoby was bringing in the cows. It was in the summer and they did have a very cranky bull. Mabel had to get a 22 rifle to use as a pitch fork. It wasn't effective enough this time and the bull charged and she shot him with ONE shot. We were given a quarter and it was loaded with buck-shot, but it tasted so very good and quite a change from the moose meat we had so often.

Alan Bryan died February 25, 1970 at the age of 71 years. Mother passed away in 1962. They are both interred in the Innisfail Cemetery.

THE BYE STORY by Fred Bye

I left school in the middle of Grade 12 (much against my parents' wishes) to accept a position to learn telegraphy. I spent one year at no salary with time off to run my paper route and then six months at a salary of \$1.00 per week. I started on the job of telegraph operator in 1902 at Lindsay, Ontario, then went to Toronto for a year to work for Associated Press Wire. I worked the New York side of quad sending for two hours and receiving for two hours for a salary of \$30.00 per month. At one time I worked with the fastest operator in the U.S.A.

It was in 1904 I came to Calgary to work on the Railway. I worked nights in the Dispatchers' office for about a year or so, where I met Connie after a big argument over my using her typewriter. Connie was working for the C.P.R. as a steno at the time.

My first experience in the West was when I went as a night operator to Irvine, Alberta. Trains took water at Irvine and while I was getting the mail and express, a cowboy jumped off the colonist car shouting "In Winnipeg there is a Cop on every corner watching me, now I'm home and I'm going to shoot" and with that he pulled out two revolvers and commenced shooting in the air. I don't know yet how I ever got back in the station. From there I worked as night operator at Gleichen, Strathcona and Canmore. We used to get the miners pay from Calgary by train, all in gold, sealed in sacks. In 1909 I put in a bid to go to Killam and after a short while, as agent, I went to Winnipeg and Connie and I were married on Sept. 21, 1910. In 1913 we came to Innisfail and there we got a poor reception, in fact I was known as "The Meanest Man in Alberta" according to headlines in Calgary. What had happened was I had just met the relief agent a few minutes and was trying to get our furniture unloaded and had no keys to the office or waiting room. When the night train arrived, a family not being able to get into the waiting room, commenced knocking on the door. I called from the upstairs window asking what the trouble was and had no idea as to why it would be necessary to let them in to the office and suggested the hotel across the street. The advertising I got wasn't favorable for some time because of this incident. However, we did eventually feel very much at home and made many friends with such people as Mr. & Mrs. G.E. Bryan, Mr. & Mrs.

G.W. West, Mr. & Mrs. Wm. Geary and Mr. & Mrs. H. McDermott.

I was athletically inclined and when Dr. Turner and Dr. Wagner arrived we started up a baseball team and everything looked rosy. Later Mr. & Mrs. Percy, John and Mrs. Orton came along and we got a soccer team organized. When winter came along it was curling with such stalwarts as W.J. Edgar, Bill Wilson and Bill Watt. I became quite a baseball fan and me and my dog "Butch" were coaching along the third base line (the dog kept running on to the diamond — much to the annoyance of the umpire). Finally the umpire decided to chase the dog off, but instead the dog went after him and it was a real sight to see.

During the war, we organized a Concert Company and put on shows all through the district with J.B. McMillan, Wm. Geary, Drs. Turner and Wagner driving us. The male members used to dress in the coal bins while the ladies dressed behind sheets strung up back of the stage. On one occasion we had Hugh Hodge singing a song and his false teeth fell out — which caused quite a laugh to the audience. We did have some terrible times getting to the different school houses, especially during the winter. However, it was great fun and we made enough money to send an ambulance overseas. One winter evening we went to Knee Hill Valley and when we arrived the school was dark — it was snowing heavily and evidently they didn't expect us to come. We lighted up the lamps (without chimneys) and before long the residents commenced to come and we started the show around ten o'clock with a full house in attendance.

It may be of interest to tell you that I was among some of the early operators who reported sporting events by telegraph. It was something like the broadcasting of today. It was a game of Lacrosse between St. Catharines and Brantford, Ontario in 1903 and I copied a game of hockey in Winnipeg in 1904. Just as an example of Phillips Code (which operators used when sending and receiving Associated Press dispatches "IXU 5 Hu Ws DBF bt ws CBI" meant "It is understood the house was destroyed by fire, but was covered by Insurance").

While I was working in Canmore, I relieved the Agent who was away sick and they sent an operator to take my place as night operator. We used to get cases of dynamite in by freight for the mines in large cases (about four feet square) which we had to put in the freight shed during the night and after filling the coal scuttles up with coal at night I told the operator if he wanted more coal he could get it in the coal bin, but to be careful as there was a shipment of dynamite there. When I went in to relieve him in the morning he was working with his overcoat on and all the scuttles were empty. I asked him why he had not gone in for coal and he told me he would rather freeze to death than be blown up by dynamite.

It was with great regret that we left Innisfail in 1945. The work was getting too heavy in the office so I bid in to the Agency at Okotoks. One thing Connie and I will never forget was the number of people

from Innisfail who came down to Calgary to help us celebrate our Sixtieth Wedding Anniversary.

I am a Past Noble Grand of the Odd Fellows Lodge in Innisfail...and a Past Master of Innisfail Masonic Lodge and now hold a Life Membership and fifty year Jewel from the finest bunch of boys I have ever met. I am also a member of the Calgary Lodge of Perfection Scottish Rite, the Delta Chapter of Rose Croix and the Southern Alberta Consistory.

THE BYE STORY can't by Connie Bye

When it comes to mentioning my birth, I don't know whether I was born or not. I think I just "grewed". My Mother came direct from London to Montana in 1886 and having led a sheltered English Girls' life she was totally unprepared for my arrival which took place Oct. 12, 1888 (just missing Friday the 13th by a few hours). Mother with a younger sister (16 years) got out the Doctor's book to find out what all was wrong, and so without benefit of Doctor or Midwife, there I was — and it is a wonder that I have survived to the ripe old age of 85 and alive to tell the tale. I was born on a cattle ranch near Ubet, Montana. My Father fought through desperate years of drought blizzards and the disastrous year of 1889 when so many ranchers lost all their cattle. Ubet was the stamping ground of the famous Indian artist, Charles Russell, and he used to carry me around at the various do's in the area.

I was about four, when my Father gave up the ranch and decided to go to Helena to live. I remember an occasion when I had gone to pick some flowers in a field close by and saw all these lovely little chocolate drops which I filled my English Pinafore with and took them to show my Mamma. She looked with horror at me and said "You havn't eaten any, have you?" A band of sheep had recently passed by.

I spent all my school life in Helena until the last year of high school when we went to live in Great Falls. On the Capitol building in Helena stands the statue of Justice — which before it was raised, I and my friends crawled through it from one end to the other as it lay on the ground.

About this time, there was a boom going on in Alberta and Calgary seemed a good place to go into business. My Father and his partner came to Calgary in 1906. We left Great Falls on a mixed train at nine in the morning and arrived in Lethbridge at midnight. The next morning we continued our journey to Calgary. We arrived August 15, 1906.

It seemed there was a dire need for stenographers and I settled for a job at the C.P.R. station in the dispatchers office. Every morning I would discover my whole arrangement of my typewriter would be disorganized and later discovered that the night operator (Fred Bye) used it at night. I left a nasty note for him and next morning he came in to look me over and it certainly wasn't "love at first sight" on either side, but through the years things began to change. Calgary wasn't very big then and there were very few sidewalks. There was one however, from the Stampede Grounds to the Cemetery and so this is where Fred and I did our courting on the way to the

Cemetery. I left with my family in 1908 to live in Winnipeg and so it was there in 1910 Fred and I were married.

Shortly after we arrived in Innisfail Betty was born (1913) and in 1917 Doris arrived. We did so enjoy our Innisfail Concert Company and I think the highlight of our show Career was organizing the Innisfail Drama Club. We used to hold our practice in a very commodious barn owned by Mr. O'Neil. There was an old pot-belly stove always on the go with a large pot of coffee and Mr. Giolma would bring in three or four dozen hardboiled eggs. We were honored by being asked to put on our play at Banff and I remember Jennie Smith who had never seen the "Hole in the Wall" on the way to Banff wanting Fred to show us. While he was busy pointing out the Hole, we went in the ditch. Another work I enjoyed was the I.O.D.E. I took a real interest in decorating for the Rose Ball. I remember Rev. Orton (who didn't take in dancing often) remarking to me on one occasion "Mrs. Bye, at least the Rose Ball insures one that they have an annual BATH". I think Mr. S.A. Fox would dread the day when I would ask him to help with the decorating. We used to have a ball in Markerville when we took our shows there. The Morkebergs were so co-operative. One show we took to Markerville was when Doug Ewer was M.C. We had pulled a fast one on him when Jack Gilmore and I had prepared 50 bottles of a mixture made of Dutch drops (a most evil smelling concoction) and we had Mr. Ewer put this up for sale, totally unprepared. It was to cure most anything from ingrown toe nails to brain damage and all our boys went up the aisle and sold every bottle. We later heard that someone threw a bottle of this stuff on Carl Morkebergs' car and they had to walk home and for some weeks he used a lot of effort in ridding the car of the smell. Those were what was known as the good old days.

We left Okotoks after five years when Fred retired in 1951. We decided to retire in Calgary and so for the last 25 years we have tried to live up to City Life. We really don't know why we came to the City and certainly would recommend that people think twice before they dig up their roots and plant them somewhere else. We look back to our life in Innisfail where we took part in everything and had hosts of friends and felt closer to everything and everybody. And so now we live a much quieter life, but we feel we have done our bit and enjoyed every minute.

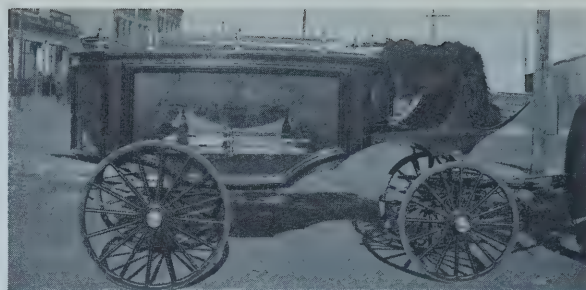
FASHIONS IN FUNERALS

TAKEN FROM DOBSON BROS. DAYBOOK

1900 — May 15 — D. Sullivan — coffin and grave \$25.00

1901 — June 27 — Milligan — coffin \$28.00, digging of grave \$5.00

1902 — Feb. 28 — G.W. West — Dig grave \$5.00, coffin and gloves \$16.00



McArthur's horse-drawn hearse

Suddenly Called to Rest

On Saturday morning the grim reaper paid a very sudden, though not altogether unexpected, call at the home of Mr. and Mrs. August Kremer, Central avenue. When he left he took with him the spirit of Mrs. Kremer.

Mr. Kremer had arisen as usual in the morning and attended to the chores. After milking he returned to the house, expecting to find Mrs. Kremer up and around. Not seeing her he went to the chamber to see why she had not arisen. A fearful shock met him. She who had for so many years been his companion and helpmate was still in death. About four o'clock, Mrs. Kremer, who for about five years had been troubled with heart disease, called her husband asking him to put a plaster on and build a little fire. At seven o'clock Mr. Kremer saw his wife quietly sleeping and went out to do the usual morning work. About half an hour later she had passed away.

Mrs. Kremer (Miss Wilhelmine Schultz) was born in Waterloo county, Ontario. On November 5th, 1878, she was wedded to August Kremer, the result of the union being three boys. The eldest, David H., is living in town; Norman is in Tacoma, Wash., and Alexander is in Elliott, B. C.

Mr. and Mrs. Kremer formerly lived at Elmwood, Bruce county, Ont., coming to Innisfail in 1895.

The funeral took place on Tuesday afternoon, services being conducted at the Baptist church by Revs. Henry Gandle, of Mayton, and J. Detwiller, of Didsbury, of the Mennonites, to which denomination Mrs. Kremer belonged. The pallbearers were Messrs. Jas. Smith, W. D. Varty, J. D. Lauder, Chas. Grey, Jos. Jacobs and Geo. S. Kirkham.

The funeral was one of the largest witnessed in Innisfail for a long time, the number of friends present testifying to the respect in which deceased was held.

From Advertisement in 1904 paper: Brother offers reward to Indians of \$20. for brother presumed in lake — reward only good if brother dead.

CALDER STORY by Bill Calder

After leaving Brussels, Ontario, in the summer of 1904, my father, George Calder and his brother John, took up a homestead in the Huxley district. They spent the winters of 1905-06 in the Raven area (west of Innisfail) taking out logs and having them sawn for lumber which they hauled to the farm which their widowed mother had bought in the Little Red Deer District.

In 1906, their mother Mrs. Thomas Calder (Anne), arrived from the East and bought a quarter of land from John Sinclair. It was where she lived until her passing in 1916. Granny Calder worked hard as all pioneer women did, but always took time to think of others less fortunate. In 1912 she and eleven of her neighbors formed the Dorcas Society, she being the first president. Their group had a twofold purpose in that it got the women together socially as their fingers worked busily to sew clothing and quilts for mission parcels and those in need in the immediate area. It also gave them the opportunity to plan picnics and socials for their husbands, families and friends. One of the rules of this organization was, and still is, that there "must be no gossip at these meetings." The organization has continued to this day trying to uphold the ideals set by its founders. The Dorcas affiliated with the Women's Institutes and is now known as the Little Red Deer Dorcas W.I.

In 1906 George bought the S.W. quarter of 23-35-1-5 and there made his home till retiring to town in 1955. He married Clara Fead December 11, 1911. They had two children Cecelia and William (Bill) who still live in the Innisfail area. Clara passed away in the spring of 1916. George's sister, Jean, came to care for the children and keep house for him staying till she died in 1926.

In June, 1921 he married Anna MacLeod who was working as a bookkeeper at Hodge's store. She is the sister of the late Norman MacLeod and of Mrs. Shortt whose husband was Reverend Shortt, the Presbyterian minister here at that time. She is now living with Cecelia in Innisfail and in her 93rd year (1973). This gracious and kindly lady enjoys quite good health.

George Calder was a man who was fond of livestock and raised some good horses both for driving and for working. Most farmer's pride and joy was a high-stepping driving team and my father had quite a few in his time. He raised them for work too and the last team of horses used by the Town of Innisfail were "Frank & Duke", a team he had raised and sold to them.

I remember particularly a couple of his antics with horses. He took a notion one day to break a pair of colts to harness, so he hauled the farm wagon up to the gate facing a three quarter mile long field. He brought up the colts and tied them to a fence post with a rope that he could pull from the wagon box when he had them hitched and ready to go. Things were shaping up quite well and he had the usual saskatoon switch ready when my cousin, Jean Simpson, and a friend from Winnipeg came to ask what he

was doing and if they could go along. He didn't tell them what he was doing, but invited them to come for the ride. In they climbed and Dad pulled the rope, applied the saskatoon and they were off like a bat out of Granny's closet. About an hour later they were back, safe, the girls jarred and black with dust from the summerfallow field and my Dad chuckling about the whole thing.

Another time, a hired man (Edwin Northgrave) who was quite a cowboy, was breaking a bronk to ride which everyone said was a jug head. He was getting the horse tamed down well and was quite pleased with himself. One day my Dad was standing in the doorway of the barn when Edwin came out to give the horse another workout. He saddled the horse and got on in the barn. On the way out Dad shoved a curry comb under the horse's tail, and poor Edwin didn't know what had happened as the horse took off jumping and twisting for about 100 yards before the comb fell out.

Dad and my Uncle Norman used to tell about the tongue lashing they got from Granny Calder the night they went out to get the cutter ready for Mrs. Jim Brown and her daughter who had been visiting for supper and the evening. They hitched the old milk cow to the cutter and in the dark the ladies never noticed till they were ready to go. Of course the men harnessed their horse and they got away home but this was the sort of thing that went on all the time and was their main source of amusement.



Team sold to the Town of Innisfail by Calders.

Dad went into raising purebred Shorthorns and in 1947 into Herefords. During the years he contributed over 100 bulls to the Annual Spring Sale in Calgary. As a boy I had the chore of getting the bulls to Calgary. First there would be hay and straw to bale. All the contributors in the area would bring their hay and straw to a prearranged place; then Doug and Harry Scott would move in with their baler and the job was on. When the job was completed we took our loads and headed for home. There would be boxcars ordered and these had to have tie rings put in and loaded with feed and straw. The loading and bedding were usually done one day and the bulls brought in the next by sleigh. We usually pulled out in the evening and the freight cars would be spotted at the Calgary yards by early the next morning. It was nearly a 24 hour day, a very long one for me as a 12 year old. Dad's most prized award was for a bull



George and Anna Calder and two little friends.

shown at the Golden Gate International Exposition in San Francisco in 1939, where he won an 8th prize ribbon out of a class of 48 animals.

In 1918 he sold the homestead at Huxley to Martin Winter and bought a 1/4 section in the Grahamston district from Dr. Gilray. My grandfather, Simon Fead, named the place "Punkin Centre". In the fall of 1921 the crops were heavy and "Punkin Centre" was the last to be threshed. The nights were cold and sleeping quarters consisted of logs placed to make a wall about 3-4 feet high. The logs were placed similarly to those in a log house but there were only 3 walls, over this was placed more logs. The straw was threshed over this frame and a hole was dug to get into it like an igloo. Dad and Grampa Fead had fur coats so they slept on the outside and the rest of the crew between. Among those in the crew would be Hugh & Art Brown, Harry Scott and Archie Fead. Harry Scott worked for us around 1920 and L.J. Llewellyn did around 1925.

Early in the 1920's Dad started Cecelia and I to Sunday School in Innisfail driving us in by team and buggy or cutter as the season dictated. He was superintendent of the Presbyterian Sunday School for many years and dedicated to his duties. He seldom missed and was often on the road before 9 a.m. when roads were bad or weather cold in order to put the fire on and have the church warmed.

I (Bill) married Elizabeth (Betty) Gibson in 1946, the ceremony performed by Rev. Peter Fisher, an uncle of Bill, and was held at her home "The Spruces". We had three children: Catherine (Born July 25, 1951) — now Mrs. Chris Loree — Bruce born in 1953 and Clara born Dec. 31, 1948. Our greatest loss was when Clara was struck by lightning July 19, 1960. We are farming some of the land that once belonged to the Duke of Sutherland and carry on mixed farming with mainly feeder cattle.

George Calder died in September of 1955 — only a few weeks after moving to town.

JOHN COWAN CALDER & FLORENCE AGNES CALDER by Bill Calder

John Calder came from Brussels, Ontario with his brother George in 1905 staying here in Innisfail till they took up homestead land at Huxley. The brothers stayed together working on the homestead, for neighbors and for their mother who had bought land in the Little Red Deer district in 1906.

In 1907-08 John was fixing a fence when a wire broke, flew back and hit him in the eye causing him

to lose the sight in that eye. He went back to Ontario and entered college, graduating in Pharmacy. After graduation he came back to Innisfail and worked for Miss Simpson who was a druggist here at that time. He met Florence Murphy, who was visiting her sister Mrs. Barnett. John Barnett was a lawyer here. John and Florence were married in 1912 and went to Coronation where they had a drug store of their own.

They returned to Innisfail in 1918-19 and bought Geary's Drug Store now under the name of Calder's Drug Store. John was an ardent curler and golfer. He served on the town council as an alderman, was member of the Masonic Lodge serving a term as Master. He and his wife were faithful church members and



John and Florence Calder

workers. Florence taught music. She lead the choir and was organist in the Presbyterian church for many years. At the time of church union she and John joined the United Church and continued their support as long as they lived. John was fond of dogs and his Boston Bulls were well known. The four he owned were successively called Barney.

John was in the process of selling his business to Edgar Jackson and looking forward to retirement when he died suddenly at his home in 1954. Florence lived in Innisfail until her passing in 1966.

THE CALVERT STORY

GEORGE CALVERT by Irene Calvert, Violet Rear, Marion Schrader

George Calvert farmed in Perth, Ontario. When conditions were poor in the East, the family decided to come west hoping for a new start and better living conditions. George came out first and filed on a homestead in the Calder district (SW15-35-26-4) in the spring and got a home ready for his family. In November 1902, his wife Marion followed with daughter Florence and granddaughter Dillie by train; her brother, George Gould, and George's sons John and William came in the freight car with the horses and settler's effects. Only one free passage was allowed to look after the stock. John resembled his uncle George closely — they both wore mustaches. Every time the inspector came around, William had to hide; and by either John or George staying out of sight at all times and their similar looks and clothing, they managed to get away with the hoax and arrived safely on one and the same ticket.

George and Marion had four children — John, William, Florence, and Mary. Mary passed away at the age of 16 years before they came to Alberta. Florence married Albert Snyder and they had two girls — Mable and Lois. Mable married Charlie Parker of Horn Hill district and she passed away Oct. 1946. Lois married Dick Trussler and lived where Alex Calvert now lives. She now resides in Paulson, Montana. They had one son. Dilly was a secretary and worked for Mr. Oldham for a number of years before she married Alex McHattie Sept. 24, 1924. They lived at Nanton where Alex had bought a blacksmith shop. Dillie died Dec. 25, 1934.

At the time that George Calvert passed away, wakes were held. Mr. Bill Forrester, who was just a young lad at the time, was sitting with the body. All was very quiet when there was a big bang and Bill thought the body had come to life. It was just a piece of plaster falling off the ceiling.

George Calvert died of cancer Dec. 4, 1911 at the age of 59 years. After his death, his wife Marion went to Viking to keep house for her Dad, John Gould, and her brother George. Later she came back to Innisfail and made her home with her two sons, Johnnie and Willie. George is buried in the Knee Hill Valley cemetery. Marion died in 1943 and is buried in the Innisfail Cemetery.

JOHN CALVERT by Irene Calvert, Violet Rear, Marriion Schrader

John Calvert, as a young man, worked in lumber camps in the winter time. One winter he had the misfortune of having a log roll on his leg, crushing it very badly. He spent the rest of the winter at home in bed. While he was convalescing, he learnt to knit socks and mitts. Another winter in the lumber camp he contacted small pox and he had to spend the rest of the winter in the pest house.

John was 26 years old when he came with his family to the Calder district in 1902. In 1906 he homesteaded east of Huxley. His cousin, Pervis Wilson, age ten, stayed with him. Pervis went to school at Ashcroft and Miss Lizzie Stroyan, a close neighbor, was his teacher. The last couple of years that John was on his homestead, his sister Florence with her two little daughters, Mabel and Lois, lived with him. In 1910 he sold his homestead to John C.



John Calvert Family: Back row: Johnnie, Alex, father, George, Clifford; front row: Roy, Violet, mother, Marriion, Mary.

Ash and moved back to the Calder district with his parents.

He married Miss Myrtle May Thurston in a ceremony at her home on Feb. 26, 1913. They made their home on land purchased from Joseph Sargent. They had eight children:

Violet — born 1914; she married John Flinn (dec.); m. Thomas Rear.

Marrion — born 1915; m. Raymond Schrader.

George — born 1917; m. Kathleen Letcher.

Alex — born 1919; m. Irene Rollinson

Johnnie — born 1921; died 1944.

Clifford — born 1923; m. Mary Westwood.

Roy — born 1927; m. Eileen Dyer.

Mary — born 1930; m. Andreas Thompson.

John and his wife Myrtle farmed, milked cows, raised sheep, hogs and horses. In 1920 he built a big barn (built by Dix Randall) which was destroyed by fire on Aug. 23, 1930. We then moved to the Thurston place which he had purchased in 1926. Alex and his dad would batch on this place while they put the crop in. We boarded several of the teachers that taught at Calder, including Miss Alma Whealon, who still resides in Innisfail. Dad was trustee of Calder school for several years.

He owned a threshing machine and threshed for his neighbors. In the fall of 1937 he had the misfortune to get his hand caught in the belt and pulley of the threshing machine and lost his left hand. This accident did not handicap him too much.

In 1945 he sold his farm to Charles and Lamont Lewis and retired to Innisfail. After his retirement, he would still go out and help the boys on the farm. He died Nov. 14, 1962 five days before his 86th birthday. For his 80th birthday the family held open house at their home in Innisfail to celebrate the occasion. His widow Myrtle moved to the Autumn Glen Lodge in January 1967. She celebrated her 80th birthday with a family gathering at the home of her son Alex a few weeks before her death on Dec. 20, 1970.

WILLIAM CALVERT by Mrs. Elsie Smith

In 1906 William took out a homestead at Trochu but sold it to Charlie Calvert in 1912 returning to the family farm at Innisfail after his father, George Calvert, had died. His first neighbors were George Kirkham and Joe Sargent, Jim Layden, Bernard Hibbert, and their families. Once Walter and Albert Hibbert went by team and wagon to Delia to visit. While they were there, the Red Deer river had risen so high they were unable to use the ferry. They forded the river and almost lost their lives.

William Calvert married Amelia Hall on April 7, 1915. They had six children. We attended Calder School. We drove a team of horses on the wagon for 14 miles into Innisfail to buy or trade for groceries at West's store. Most of our clothes were home made as there was no money to buy them. Dad was a member of the Orange Lodge.

William Calvert died in 1971, buried at Innisfail.

William and Amelia's children:

Joe — married Marion Bennett Jan. 21, 1942; they farm east of Innisfail.



Delbert, Wm. Calvert, Gordon, Joe, Elsie, Ellen, Mrs. Calvert, Lewis; at 50th Anniversary.

Elsie — married Chris Wacker Nov. 1, 1939 at Usona, Alta. She returned to Innisfail in 1960 and later married Charlie Smith. Her daughter Donna married Wallace Seifried of Edmonton and son Floyd married Edna Moxness of Innisfail. — one son.

Lewis — not married; farms at Innisfail.

Gordon — not married; farms at Innisfail.

Delbert — married Dorothy Bateman Dec. 6, 1950; farming at Innisfail.

Ellen — married Bud White Nov. 17, 1948; farming in Knee Hill Valley district.

When William Calvert was on his Trochu homestead, a school district was formed — Ashcroft No. 1740 — in 1908. Bill Calvert, Ray Demerest, and Art Getchel, three bachelors at that time, kept busy getting entertainments and plays to get things we needed for the school. The young people put on a two hour play which they took to many of the towns around and made enough money to buy lumber to build a barn at the school for the children's horses; neighbors put on a bee and put the building up in a short time, the labour of course was all free.

NEIL CAMERON by Robert Donner

Neil was born in 1867 at Lochaline, Argyle, Scotland. He came to the U.S.A. about 1886 and worked for various cattle companies in Texas and Nebraska. He homesteaded in Nebraska in 1894. During the fall of 1900 he came to Canada with R.H. Donner and together they purchased sec 7 Twp 35 Rge 28 W 4. They went back to Nebraska and in March, 1901 Neil married Anna Marie Peterson. In early April they came to their land at Innisfail to make their home. They lived in the Gillingham house until they had their own home built.

During the first years, Neil and Bob Donner worked together putting up hay for Burns Cattle Company at Pine Lake and Olds. Neil was the first secretary treasurer of the Buffalo Creek School (1909) and their family were listed among the first pupils.

Neil kept and raised horses and had several well known stallions. He also raised purebred Shorthorn cattle and was a regular contributor to the Calgary Bull Sale.

The Cameron home was a favorite district gathering place on Sundays. The coffee pot was always on and all were made welcome who came to

call. For many years Neil acted as an agent for a Dr. Cherry who had extensive land investments in the area. He had one of the early tractors, a Waterloo-Boy, purchasing it in 1918. Neil was an excellent photographer and left a heritage of pictures of the early days in this area. His keen sense of humor shows through most of them.

Mrs. Cameron passed away in 1930 with burial in the Innisfail cemetery. It was shortly after this loss, that Neil sold his farm to G.R. Torrence and moved to Leedale Alberta where he resided until his death in 1937. He is interred in the Innisfail Cemetery.

Mr. & Mrs. Camerons' family consisted of four daughters: Mary who married Alton Doupe and they reside in Ontario; Ethel who married Don Malcolm and they reside in Markerville; Clara who married Bert Russel, passed away in 1956; Anna who married E. Dowdeswell passed away in 1968.

A younger brother of Neils, Hugh Cameron, came to America in 1888 and later to Innisfail. He was injured and partly paralyzed in an accident. Hugh resided with the Camerons until his passing in 1926-27. He is interred in the Innisfail Cemetery.

BIG BEND OIL COMPANY



Neil Cameron, known for his gimmick photography, and a sense of humour, is shown spoofing the Big Bend Oil Co. which went "caput" when WWI started.



Geological discovery.



Drilling for oil.



Pulling the casing.



Shooting the well.

WILLIAM CAMERON by Robert Donner

William Cameron was born near Lenzie, Scotland in 1892. He came with his sister Mary (my mother) to Neil Cameron's in the Buffalo Creek district near Innisfail in 1911. He worked in the area and upon the death of his brother-in-law, Robert H. Donner, in 1915, he took over the operation of the Donner farm. He operated the farm until 1925 at which time he worked on various oil rigs in Turner Valley. It was later that he went to Edmonton and worked for the Edmonton Flying Club. He served in WWII at No. 32 Elementary Flying Training School at Bowden. He then moved to Maple Creek and then Langley, B.C., where he died in 1959. He is survived by his widow and buried at the Innisfail Cemetery.

My maternal grandparents, Dougal and Ellen Cameron came from Scotland to farm in 1922 with a younger daughter Nellie. Dougal was a brother to Neil Cameron. They lived on the farm until 1925 when Dougal passed away and is buried in Innisfail. At this time Ellen Cameron, Nellie and a son Duncan Cameron moved to the Aberdeen District. Nellie died in 1948 and Ellen in 1950. Shortly after this Duncan sold out and moved to Calgary. Mother and I stayed on the farm until 1920 and we then went to visit Mother's parents in Scotland. We returned in 1921. In June of 1921 mother married Alex Hodge. We lived in Calgary until 1925. A younger brother of mother's (Duncan Cameron) returned to Canada with us. Dougal and sons William and Duncan were all well known pipers; Duncan held the Provincial title.

Alex Hodge was born near Edinburgh, Scotland in 1890. He started work in coal mines at an early age. He came to Calgary in 1910 and worked in coal mines at Frank until the mines were closed by strikes. He then joined the C.E.F. in Calgary in Feb. 1915. He served in France with the 3rd Field Ambulance until 1919. He returned and took up the plastering trade in Calgary. He married Mary Cameron Donner in 1921. They then moved to the Donner farm at Innisfail in 1925. They operated the farm until I was old enough to take it over. As I was able to do more of the farming, he was able to work in the area at his trade of plastering. Alex and mother moved into Innisfail in 1942 when I was married. They still reside there. They have one son George in Edmonton and a daughter, Ellen (Mrs. Ed Handford) still in the district. Dad has been a member of the Legion since W.W.1.

MR. & MRS. JOHN CAMPBELL by Mrs. Mabel Edgar

The Campbells hailed from Ontario in 1900 and settled in the Bowden district — one mile west of Bowden. They brought a carload of settlers' effects including a team of horses. They pioneered on that farm until 1913 when they moved to the Little Red Deer District (seven miles west of Innisfail). John Campbell purchased a section of raw land and broke some of the land with horses. Being a carpenter, he built a nice set of buildings. The lumber, he hauled himself from the saw mill. This would take two days with horses to get the lumber. He was a good farmer

and did everything right.

They had a tough break when they lost their eldest son, Duncan Alexander in the 1914 - 1918 war. Mr. Campbell passed away in 1930 and their farm was carried on by Donald, their youngest son. They had four of a family left at that time: Catherine who married Tom Duncan, a son of one of the real pioneers of the district. They had four boys and one girl. Three of the sons: John, Donald and Leslie own and operate three farms in the Little Red Deer district. The other son, Gordon, is a medical doctor and is now in Edmonton. Their only daughter Betty married Harold Anderson and they are successful farmers in Bowden. Mabel May married W.J. Edgar in 1922. See Edgar Story. Margaret the third daughter, taught school for many years and is now retired having finished her teaching career in Innisfail; Donald carried on the John Campbell farm where his parents left off. He sold that farm to his nephew, John Duncan. He married Margaret Coles and now farms east of Penhold.

The John Campbells contributed much to the life of the community and were active on school and Church boards for many years in the Little Red Deer district.

JOHNSON CAMPBELL by the Campbell family

Johnson Campbell Sr. was born in Perth, Ontario on September 23, 1869. He married Margaret Crawford in Lanark, Ontario in 1891. Eight years later, in the spring of 1899, he came to Innisfail on a settlers train accompanied by his mother, Mrs. Rachel Campbell, and his three young children. His wife, Margaret was expecting their fourth child, so stayed in Ontario until after the event. During their trip one of the box-car doors came open and a young colt fell out. Mrs. Ferguson and her six children came to Innisfail on the same train.

On arrival at Innisfail Grandma and the children stayed at her sisters place — the Dave Ennis' south east of town. Then, we settled on land west of Innisfail with Hugh McDougalls and Dave Arnell as



Mr. and Mrs. J. Campbell on their wedding day attended by Mrs. Campbell's sister and brother-in-law.

neighbors. Mr. Campbell was a farmer and logger and later qualified as a steam engineer. He operated the steam engine thresher doing extensive custom work in the area. Neighbors would help one another, forming crews until harvesting was completed.

Occasionally Indian families would stop at the Campbell home begging for food. They were never refused, but the dog "Bob" never permitted them to enter the house while the food was being prepared for them.

One spring, Tom Campbell brought a little brown bear cub home from High Prairie. He was a lovely pet, but grew rapidly and became unpredictable. One day a passerby, with a wagon for sale or trade, wanted the bear, so a trade took place. Many times in later years the wagon was referred to as "The bear".



The man we traded the bear for a wagon.

In the bitter winter of 1906 - 07, Johnson Campbell and Tom Ennis set out with team and sleigh on the three day trip to the coal mine near Delburne hiring Max Sucee to help with chores at home. While they were gone, temperatures dropped to 70' below. The men and the load of coal were welcomed home.

Johnson Campbell was stricken by a lengthy illness and bedridden for a long time. Recovery was slow. With his wife's good nursing care and Dr. Membrey's attention he did recover.

A binder was acquired and in 1911, they moved to a larger farm in the Oklahoma district. They cleared and broke more land, farmed larger crops and obtained more equipment to work with (such as a seed drill). Prior to this crops had been hand seeded.

The older children attended the Oklahoma school, a few of their early pals were the Sylva and Sanborn children, Aristide Becarte, Paul Gautier, Arthur Newsham and Harold Knipe. Early teachers were Ursula Flett, Ida Gaetz and V. D. Ptolemy.

Alex and Tom joined the armed forces in 1916 and 1917 respectively. Alex spent two years in France and held the rank of Sgt. when he returned home in April, 1919. Tom was stricken with influenza in England and returned home in August, 1919. He served all through W.W. II.

In 1917 the family moved back to the Little Red Deer district and rented the Baar farm (now owned

by Wilf Edgar). Neighbors were Testers, Edgars, McDougalls, Duncans, Davidsons, Wrights and Scarletts. The five younger members of the family went to school at the Little Red Deer School.

In the summer ball games and picnics were enjoyed. The grand finale was a greased pig race. The winner was awarded the pig as his prize.

In 1934 the Campbells purchased the Ted Baker place east of Innisfail in the Clarendon district. This is now owned and operated by Johnson Campbell Jr.

Johnson Campbell Sr. was a member of the Orange Lodge and Mrs. Campbell a member of the Dorcas Society. Margaret Campbell died September 28, 1948 and Mr. Campbell died February 2, 1951.

Children born to Mr. and Mrs. J. Campbell were: Nettie who first married Jas McCoubrey and later Arthur Chamberline (Olds). She died April 25, 1967. Alex unmarried lived at Innisfail until his passing in April, 1949. Thomas married Minnie Wells and lived in Red Deer until his passing on November 8, 1966. Rachel married Basil Cousins and in 1973 resides in Innisfail. Agnes married Cecil Ragan and later married Robert Morris and in 1973 resides at Innisfail. Mary married Burton Parker and lives in Edmonton. Matilda married Les Cammidge of Innisfail and she died January 23, 1967. Mabel married Harry Loughlean of Innisfail. Johnson Jr. married Clara Stephensen and they live at Innisfail. James was married to Alice Pendergast of Innisfail who passed away in the late 50's and later married Ella Lindsey of Vancouver. He died in Vancouver April 16, 1970.

THE JOHN CARR STORY by Pearl Hansen & Ethel Daines

John Reed Carr was born in Kansas, August 11, 1864. Mrs. Carr was the former Luella Goodwin and was born in Missouri, March 9, 1872. They came from Oklahoma, U.S.A. to Alberta.

Our Dad (J.R. Carr), came to Alberta in 1906 with Mr. John McCaw to look at land. He spent some time in southern Alberta as well as in the Three Hills and Trochu area before deciding on the Grahamston district. After seeing the prairies, this area appealed to him. The family consisting of Mother, Dad, Clarence, Roy, Myrtle, Earl, Pearl and Homer arrived in Innisfail March 31, 1907. The trip took about two weeks by train. They brought with them two carloads of household effects, farm machinery and five head of horses. Also they brought barrels of salt pork, canned fruit and sorghum molasses which helped to feed the family the first year. There were several families who accompanied him — all returning within the year except his brother W.H. Carr who farmed in the Mayton district for two years, then moved to Colorado. We lived in Innisfail for a few weeks before moving out to the farm that he had rented from Rev. Dr. Good. Later we bought this farm as well as other land giving a total of 3/4 in all.

Dad was always a farmer. He continued farming until he sold out to Mr. & Mrs. Keith Manuel and retired to Innisfail in 1939.

The most tragic thing that could happen to any family was when our brother Earl was injured while



Mr. and Mrs. John Carr, Wedding Portraits.

driving the team that operated the hay baler. A rod broke and struck him in the head fracturing his skull. He died 10 days later in the hospital. This happened on the Jim Scarlett farm in the Little Red Deer District. With this same hay baler, Dad baled hay for neighbors far and wide. Later he bought a power operated baler and then with the engine from that and a saw he did custom wood sawing as well as hay baling.

Along with milking cows, making butter, keeping flocks of chickens and selling the produce and some grain, he managed to feed and clothe a large family.

Children born to Mr. & Mrs. J.R. Carr were: Clarence born Sept. 2, 1892. He married Dorathea Schroeder in 1925. Roy born Nov. 9, 1894 and married Bertha Hewitt in 1927. Myrtle born July 8, 1897 married J.W. McCready in 1920. Earl born Dec. 25, 1899. Pearl born Feb. 15, 1902 and married H.C. Hansen in 1924. Homer born Sept. 28, 1904 married Evelyn Tillier in 1936. Alvin born Nov. 28, 1908 in Innisfail, married Ellen VanHorn in 1957. Ethel born May 18, 1911 in Innisfail married Romie Daines in 1948.

The George Oxtoby's, Julius and Wm. Schroeder, David Burns, Bert Fry and Thomas Walker all were real good neighbors. Mrs. Oxtoby acted as midwife when Alvin and Ethel were born. All these families were farmers and most of them remained on the farms until they sold or turned the land over to sons and retired.

All the people in the early days suffered many hardships. We were never used to seeing the grain snowed under in August which happened to us the first or second year we were here. The bitterly cold winds and not properly clothed for it or for the deep snow were hard to take. Among the hardships was lack of hospital or medical conveniences. Our Mother had surgery performed on the kitchen table by Dr. Membry in about 1912. Ethel was very badly burned at the age of two. Drs. Turner and Wagner made trips daily for about three weeks with a hired team and buggy to dress the burns. The entire doctor bill for this was \$150. Alvin had ruptured appendix and this operation too was on the kitchen table by lamp light.



Ethel and Alvin Carr

Dad broke a section of land for J.B. McMillan with four horses and a walking plow, and the children picked the rocks. My Dad was interested in the affairs of the community, a school trustee for several years, served as road foreman operating the road grader. In the early days the farmers worked out part of their taxes by furnishing horses and drivers.

Clarence served in W.W.I joining the C.A.M.C. later transferring to the 49th Battalion. He served in Europe in the trenches, but was in England in hospital with Trench fever when peace was declared. Alvin served in England in WW. II and was discharged in 1943 as a Co. Sgt. Major.

Early recreation was the usual Xmas concerts, debates, dances, picnics, & community card parties (King Pedro). The whole family would go to these parties by sleigh and team.

Clarence had the first radio in the district (battery operated). As a treat for the community he volunteered to take it to the school for a musical evening. Much to his embarrassment, the battery was too weak to get any reception. However, the evening wasn't lost as they had lunch and a visit.

For years, Dad went big game hunting west of Rocky Mountain House. His companions were Bert Fry, Chas. Snideman, Garnet Oxley, George Atkinson and others. We lived on moose and venison until we couldn't take it any longer . . . then the chickens got it. He was also an ardent fisherman, travelling to Swan Lake many times. His fishing pals were Bill Emerick, Andy Lennox, Rev. Goddard and others.

The trading dollar was worth very little in the early days. Eggs sold from .04 cents to 10 cents a dozen, butter 10 to 15 cents lb. I remember on one occasion my mother had 12 lbs. butter cooling outside before taking it to town and one of the pet cows ate it. Oats sold for 25c or less a bushel.

One summer the whole family helped with the haying except Mother who stayed home and did the cooking for the hungry brood. Alvin drove the stacker team and Ethel held up the doubletrees while the horses backed up. Alvin received 10c a day, Ethel 5c a day and the rest got what the little boy shot at!

We all attended Grahamston school and some went to Innisfail High school. Ethel graduated in Pharmacy from the U. of A. winning a gold medal for the

highest marks in the class. She worked for Mr. Badcock in his drugstore until she was married.

Our first teacher was Margaret Burns. Some schoolmates were Peggy Gordon, Helen Wade, Clara Schroeder and Cora McCaw. The W.I. was organized about 1923. Mrs. Heather Thompson was the first president and I (Pearl) the Sec./treas.

Earl died June 28, 1910, Mother died April 12, 1949, Father died June 22, 1955, all buried in the Innisfail Cemetery. Myrtle died May, 1970 and was buried at Warren Michigan. Clarence died June, 1970 and was buried in the Field of Honor, Innisfail Cemetery.

WILLIAM FRANKLIN CARSCALLLEN by Mrs. Hazel Stevenett

Dr. Frank Carscallen graduated in Medicine from McGill University. He served overseas in World War I with the 8th Field Ambulance. He was a veteran of the Battle of Vimy Ridge.

In 1920 he moved to this area practicing with Dr. G.C. Wagner living in Bowden for some time until he could get a house in Innisfail. They finally rented a house on the north side of town and moved to Innisfail in 1929. He built a new house where the Stan Freeman family now live.

Drs. Wagner and Carscallen had their office in the Watt Building for many years. In 1956 Dr. Carscallen had built a new clinic called "The Carscallen Clinic" His new associate was Dr. Harvey Lerner.

It was in 1956 that Dr. Carscallen was appointed coroner in and for the Province of Alberta through the office of the Attorney Generals' Department. He was a charter member of the Innisfail Lions' Club, a member of the Rotary Club, the Innifail Legion, and the Masonic Lodge no. 8 having been Worshipful Master of the Innisfail Lodge in 1946.

In 1960 Dr. Carscallen and his wife Myrl, moved to Calgary into retirement. He resided until his



Dr. W. F. Carscallen

passing July 22, 1971 in Calgary. His wife Myrl had predeceased him in 1966. He leaves his daughter Elizabeth (Mrs. J.P. Mitchell) of Calgary and one grandson Jon.

Our Pioneer Doctor of this area was truly a great man and a friend to everyone. He was one of the "old time Family Doctors" which we don't find very often today. Rain or snow, hot or cold, our Dr. Carscallen travelled miles to visit the sick and care for them. So "Hats off to our Pioneer Doctor Carscallen" and our greatest tribute to our late Doctor would be: "Well done Thy good and faithful servant".

ALBERT E. CARTER by A. Russell Carter

Albert E. Carter (my father) and two brothers Alvin and James came from Brussels, Ontario in 1906 to farm in the Little Red Deer District west of Innisfail. Father was born in Merris Township, Huron County, Ontario in 1867. His wife, Flora (Campbell Fulton), and two younger sons followed in July of 1907. Father had farmed in Ontario and came West to homestead.

He disposed of the farm about 1911 and took over the supervision of the Duke of Sutherland's farms after he, (the Duke) purchased the farms of James Brown and Alf Carter. We lived in the James Brown farm home after the Browns moved to Edmonton.

It was in 1913 that Father managed the livery stable on the corner near the Bank of Commerce. He moved to Edmonton in 1914 to work for the City of Edmonton as a teamster. He joined the City of Edmonton Fire Department in 1916 and was employed here until his retirement.

Altho' I left Innisfail in 1914, I do remember what fine neighbors we had in the Innisfail area — those being: George and John Calder, (who also came from Grey Township, Ontario); The Edgars, Testers, McDougalls, Scotts, Sinclairs, John and Jim Brown, Scarletts and Davidsons. Travelling was much more difficult then with the trails and few roads. Winter was even worse.

Children born to Mr. & Mrs. A.E. Carter were: Alvin Ernest — married Jessie Dalrymple of Scotland. Alvin commenced barbering in Innisfail with Alex Munro about 1909 and he continued with this occupation in Edmonton. He served with the Canadian Army 1917-1919. James Thomas — married Freda Krause. James started with the C.P.R. as a fireman in 1910 and finally was a locomotive engineer for the C.P.R. until he was killed in a train collision at Lacombe in 1946. Wilbert John — see below; I, Albert Russell — married Ella Lundy of Innisfail. I attended Little Red Deer School, Innisfail High School and in 1915 the Calgary Normal School. It was only from May of 1915 to Easter of 1916 that I taught school — leaving to join "C" Company, 196 Western University Battalion in April, 1916. I went overseas to Seaford and Bramshott, England — drafted to 1st C.M.R., 8th Brigade (France), March 15, 1917. I served with the Lewis Gun Section — N.C.O. until Armistice Day when we arrived in Mons, Belgium. I left France in February and England in March for Canada where we were discharged in

Brandon, Manitoba, 1919. I was wounded twice (1917 and 1918). It was in 1919 that I commenced study of optometry and finished my final exams at the University of Alberta, obtaining a diploma in November of 1922. I practiced optometry in Edmonton until retirement in 1964 with the exception of 1-1/2 years in Red Deer with Harold Snell (1927-29).



Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Carter

It was in 1914 I left Innisfail and since that time have been associated with the following organizations: Masonic Lodge (1920), Scottish Rite, Shrine; The Gyro Club I joined in 1924 and became club President (Edmonton) in 1941 the Gyro District Governor in 1943 and International President of the Gyro Fraternity in 1952. I am a life member of the Alberta Optometric Association.

Father died in 1942, Mother in 1952 and both are interred in the Edmonton Cemetery. Alvin is buried in the Innisfail Cemetery as is Wilbert, John (Bert). James (deceased in 1946) is interred in Red Deer Cemetery.

WILBERT JOHN (BERT) CARTER by Harvey Carter

My Dad, Bert, worked on the farm for the Duke of Sutherland and later for Alf Benedict at Mayton. He then moved to Innisfail to work for Dick Kremer in the brick yard and garage. He bought his own garage later where the West End Service is now and ran this for some time. There was no car that Dad couldn't fix, in fact, if he couldn't fix it, it was "unfixable". He later sold his garage to L.L. Kemp and went to work for Kenny & Proctor. He worked for the M.D. of Arthur until it no longer existed, and then with the County of Red Deer which took in what had been known as the M.D. of Arthur. It was in 1946 he became the engineer for the Town of Innisfail and continued in this position until his retirement in 1965. Dad always had time to stop and talk with all children and always had many, many friends.

I remember Dad telling of the time when Bob Smith, Ab Gilliland, Dick Kremer and himself were having a party at Kremers'. Mrs. Kremer came home unexpectedly and Bob got away quickly, but Ab Gilliland, in an effort to leave in a hurry, jumped over the clothesline and broke his leg. I recall to hearing of the time Charlie Hall, Frank Carpenter, Bert Carter (Dad) and Frank Cole took the cow up to

court in the upstairs of the old Fire Hall and what a time they had getting the cow down again. Then too, there was the time when Joe Carl was digging a well at Halls' farm, and Gregg Dalls and I were pulling the pail up (from where Joe was digging) and hit Joe on the head and knocked him out. In order to get him out of the well, we finally tied a rope on him and pulled him up. We were worried, but Joe soon was his old self again.

I joined, with so many other Innisfail boys, the Calgary Highlanders in W.W.11 and served overseas. Upon my return, I went to work for the County of Red Deer and to date have 28 years (1973) of being associated with this work.



Bert and Sadie Carter's Wedding Portrait, 1912.

My Dad married my mother, the former Sadie Swerdfeger in Innisfail. Children born to them were: Flora born in 1913, died as an infant, Harvey (me) born in 1915, I married Isobel Falconer in 1938 and we have 2 sons: Wayne (married Jean Phillips and they have two children) and reside in Calgary; Jim (married Debbie Schmidt) and they reside in Calgary. Russell (Bud) was born in 1917 and married Anne Zack who died in 1963. He then married Eileen Hiesplator and they reside in Lethbridge. Margaret was born in 1921 and married Gordon Hurry. They had three children: Gloria, Barbara and Kenny. Gordon died in 1952. She later married Jack Bowerman and they have a daughter Debby. They reside in Edmonton.

Bud, Margaret and I attended school in Innisfail and I remember Phyllis Wade as a special teacher to me. Some I attended school with were: Jack Mallinson, Russell Varty, Peggy McKay and Betty Jackson. All the young people used to congregate at Minnie Dallas' restaurant for such good food.

Isobel and I reside in Innisfail.

WALTER H. CARTER by Anna M. Carter

In the year 1887 my father, Walter H. Carter, left his native city, Edinburgh, Scotland and his vocation of chartered Accountant, to taste life in the open spaces of Alberta. He and his partner, Charles Ross

bought a ranch not far from Innisfail and it was called "Cree Hill Ranch".

In 1890 my mother, to whom my father was engaged, came from England to Montreal where they were married. Then came the journey to the ranch first by train and the rest of the way by stage coach.

In 1892 my brother, Allan, was born in Calgary. My parents going there for this event.

During the years 1894-1896 my family resided in Innisfail as my father had returned to business again as an accountant.

In 1896 my family came to Vancouver for two years, then returned to Innisfail where I was born, July 25, 1898. That day Mr. West closed his store and rode many miles to find Dr. George, who brought me into the world. I was baptized by the Anglican minister, Rev. Mr. Connell. My brother, Allan acquired his early education under Mr. Archer, at the Innisfail school.

In 1902, we returned to Vancouver.

ERASTUS HALL CENTER by Hazel A. Blair

Erastus Center was born July 5, 1869 in Lower Canada (Quebec) — Lachute.

He married the former Margaret Townsley who was born in Belfast, Ireland in 1874. She had immigrated to Milton, Ontario with her parents and four sisters. They were married in 1890 in Hamilton, Ontario.

Previous to arriving at Innisfail, Dad had worked with the C.P.R. He came to Innisfail in March, 1896 to take up a homestead at the edge of the "big bush" which was six miles east of Innisfail. His wife and son, William J. accompanied him here. I was born two weeks later. He would spend the summer months on road maintenance in the Banff National Park.

The first home was a log house with a sod roof. When it rained, the water would leak through like mad. In the winter the house was banked up around the edge with cow manure to keep the floor warm. We lived in this house about two years. Dad then bought a house belonging to Jack Duff, who had a homestead on the other side of the Big Bush. This was a four-roomed log house. We moved this building to our homestead by marking the logs and re-assembling them on our farm. After the walls were all assembled. Mother glued empty hundred pound flour sacks on the walls. (including the ceiling). This was then calsomined with a lime water solution.

Our third home was built in 1912. The lumber obtained from the trees my father cut down and had made into lumber at the Raven saw mill. The house was built by my Dad with the help of Bill McGhee.

Transportation was horseback or wagon. I was taken to be christened in the Methodist Church in Innisfail, by lumber wagon. My parents visited neighbors by travelling on horse back, going across the field each one carrying one of us children.

For amusement we went to dances at homes and in the school houses. In latter years we attended dances at the Opera House. Picnics were great fun and the one we looked forward to most, was on the 24th of May when we would go to the Red Deer River. Uncle

Will would bring back spruce trees which are still standing on Bristol Centres' farm. We attended Aberdeen school along with Euphema McGhee, Edith McCrae, Elma Center, Don and Carl Hovey, Alberta Tams and Frank Malcolm. Our first teacher was Miss York, then Miss Henderson and Lillian Fry (Mrs. John Durham) who boarded with us.

Staples were obtained in Innisfail from Sam Currie and G.W. West.

The children of Erastus and Margaret Center were: William J. (Bill) who married Ila Marie Kent. They have two children, Margaret and Glen. Bill farmed with his father prior to going overseas in W.W.I. Upon his return he took over the farm and later went to Vancouver for several years. They returned to Innisfail where he was employed by the Town of Innisfail. They later returned to Vancouver where he died. His widow resides in Victoria.

Hazel moved off the farm with her parents to Innisfail when Bill took the farm over. She worked for Wests' for over thirty years. Her father passed away, and her Mother and she raised Louellas' youngest son, Ted. Hazel married M.O. Blair and they had three children: Violet (a nurse who married Bert Cook, and resides in Victoria) Bill (dec., 1933) and Lois who married Phil Anderson (dec.) and had six children. Lois resides in Vancouver. After Hazel's Mother passed away Hazel moved to Vancouver to be with Lois. She worked for Woodward's for sometime, retired and is now with daughter Violet in Victoria.

Louella attended normal and taught at Buffalo Creek school for a number of years before and after her marriage to R.D. Bryan. She raised eight children: Elaine, Iris, Millicent, Greg, Pat, John, Wayne and Ted. She died a very young woman and is buried in Innisfail (See R.D. Bryan storey).

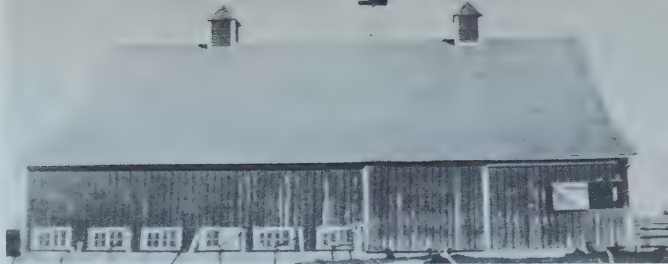
Erastus Center passed away in 1933, his wife Margaret in 1948. Both are interred in the Innisfail Cemetery.

WILLIAM LITTLE CENTER by Bristol Robertson Center

My father, William Little Center, was born at Oakville, Ontario, March 18, 1861. He had become discouraged working at a tedious job in a brick yard so decided to come West. His job had been that of gathering ashes from farmers to make potash and taking four bricks out of the form and putting them in a wheel barrow. He came by railway to Calgary and then by rail to Innisfail. My mother Flora Ann accompanied him on this trip.

He became a homesteader in the Aberdeen district in 1892. He had a mixed farming business and specialized in Ayrshire Dairy cows. Our shack was made of logs and sod. The stable was built in the bank. I remember my mother doing a lot of sewing and ordering from T. Eaton in Toronto in 1902. We milked cows and so were able to trade butter and eggs and once I remember, we were able to sell pork to G.W. West for 7c per lb.

The early neighbors were John McLeod, Stuart Milligan and Jim McLean. There was a man by the



60 men helped frame this barn in 1907; at that time the largest barn between Calgary and Edmonton.

name of John Brembridge who worked for my father from 1892 to 1908.

In looking through the diary that was kept I find the following:

July 12, 1903 — very heavy rain storm in Innisfail. Lightning struck Kemp's stable.

July 24, 1903 — worst hail storm father had seen since coming west. Broke 24 windows in the hotel in town.

March 1905 — had 60 acres ready for crop.

December 1906 — snow 12 - 14" deep

January 7, 1909 — 58' below zero

April 1910 — very bad prairie fire and burnt north all the bush past Tams

July 28, 1914 — completely hailed out — three to four miles wide and about forty miles long. Not too bad in town

The first car bought in the Aberdeen district was bought by my father on May 1, 1915. It was a Ford and the price was \$665.00 and the license cost \$12.50 Papa didn't allow it to be driven in the winter months. It was left in the garage jacked up on blocks. During the summer it was only taken out when weather was fit. The top was usually left down as it used too much gas if it was left up. If the going got too tough, going up hill, everyone had to get out and push or sometimes they backed it up the hill.

We used to have a fan mill. It was used to clean the grain. The first ones were turned by hand. The barn which is still standing on the farm of B.R. Center and Son, was built in 1907. In March of that year nine trips (each trip taking three days) with team and sleigh or wagon were taken to McInroys' Camp at Raven for lumber. Sometimes one team was used and



L. to R.: Elma, W. L. Center, Sadie, Florence holding Lexa Fife and Mrs. W. L. Center.

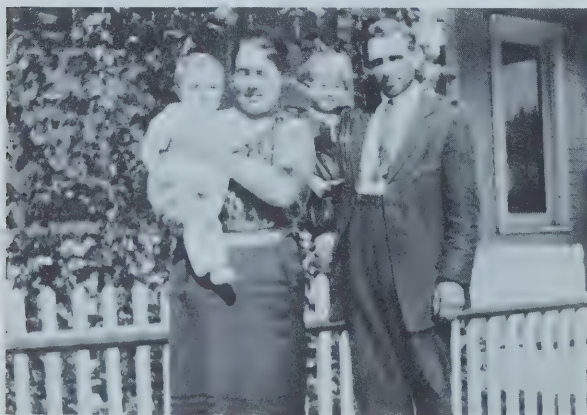
up to five teams. This barn was built in a bank. Scraping was started June 3, and it took ten days. Carpenters started the foundation July 16. The timber was all hand hewn by Mr. Phil Holden. It was forty foot timber. On July 29, sixty men came to help frame the new barn. I had been on my pony rounding up these men and it had been quite a job to find sixty men in those days. The barn was finished August 27th. Mr. Newsham painted it. It had taken seventy sacks of cement for the floor. The wages were \$1.25 per day. The first level of the barn was the dairy barn which held 36 cows and three box stalls holding calves. A center passage way was there to assist in the feeding of the cows on either side of the barn. On the second ground level was the horse stable which held ten head of horses and one box stall. The width of the passage way here was wide enough to drive a team and hay rack through. The hay was lifted by slings operating from a pulley from the rafters and stacked. A windmill had been erected and it had been shipped to us from Winnipeg. On July 30th, Harry Moore had put the windmill up. The windmill operated the grinder and cutting of feed.

Children born the W.L. Centers' were: Bristol Robertson born in 1890. I married Janet McDougall of the Buffalo Creek District. She was born in 1897 and died in 1959. Elma was born in 1895 and she married Harold Couse. Sadie was born in 1899 died in 1960. She married Willis Fife and lived in Innisfail. Florence was born in 1902 and died in 1968. She married Sydney Harburn.

I remained at home and farmed. I attended Olds Agricultural school in 1913. Elma taught at different schools in Central Alberta. Sadie worked at home and Florence was a stenographer in Calgary after 1919.

We always enjoyed picnics and I recall a supper that was held in town, October, 1902. There was a large crowd present and the receipts were \$76.70! We used to attend fairs too, with much enthusiasm.

I attended Aberdeen school which was located on the Malcolm farm. Some going to school with me were the Malcolms, Tams, and Lalors. Mr. Healy was the grade one teacher The school taxes per quarter in 1904 were \$8.00.



Mr. and Mrs. B. R. Center with sons Hugh and Donald

My father was at the 1893 meeting to see about a school for the Aberdeen district. I was chairman of the school board in 1919 - 1921 when Dick Lalor was secretary. I was also a director of the Innisfail Butter and Cheese Manufacturing Company Ltd. Jack Moore was President and Harry Shenfield was Secretary.

Old timers that come to mind in town were Miss Jury, the dress maker; Nellie Dargie who lived on the edge of town; Jack Cochrane, James Benton, Fred Archer, G.W. West, John A. Simpson and George Constantine were all there in the early days.

Each year for three years on May 24th, we used to go west to the Red Deer River for spruce trees. These we planted along the road and land and they gave us the name of our farm — "Spruce Lane Farm". Most of these trees are still standing — some now seventy-one years old.

Bristol Center remembers: John Durham used to shoot and skin coyotes. One night his young friends decided to pay him a surprise visit during the night — for a joke. When they came into the kitchen they bumped into these coyotes skins — needless to say his young guests were scared out of their wits.

I found a recipe for whooping cough: Equal parts of horse radish, Canada Thistle root, sun flower seeds and Alecaupaul root. Boil down with black strap.

Early prices in Innisfail

1892 — Dinner and horse feed	50c
Chimney for roof	\$1.00
1903 — new range	\$83.00
1907 — Bull	\$37.00
5 lbs nails	.50
Tamarack posts	.10
2 teeth pulled	1.00

Dr. Carter first Dentist.

1903 — oats	at 25c bus
Barley	50c bus
fall wheat	1.25 bus

1904 pork dressed 5-1/2 to 7c lb
horses — \$30.00 to \$40.00
hens — 55c

1905 — chickens — 10c lb

1919 barley \$1.00 bus

1913 Land valued at \$15. - \$35. an acre — W.L. Center land per records.

WILLIAM CHAMP by his daughter, Myrtle Bettina Stephenson

William Champ was born in Shrewsbury, England on June 8, 1868. He was an orphan and the Presbyterian Church sent him to live with and work on the farm of a Mr. & Mrs. Burns in the County of Halton, Kilbride, Ontario. In April 1889, he walked from Calgary in company with John Dodd and Arthur Bioletti to Poplar Grove to the homestead of John Brown. The walk took about three days.

William homesteaded 1 1/2 miles east of Innisfail on the land now farmed by Ollie Mace. As well as working his homestead, he worked for the then Alberta Central Railway, running from Calgary to Edmonton, and later as a road foreman for the



Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Champ's Wedding Portrait, 1897.

municipality. He was a councillor, a school trustee, and a member of the Agricultural Society.

On Jan. 19, 1898, he married Martha Bettina Bioletti who had come to Innisfail in 1891 from Ontario. Their three children were: Myrtle Bettina Champ, born Nov. 16, 1901; William Charles Champ, born Dec. 13, 1903 and Dorothy Letitia Champ, born July 7, 1906. The family's first neighbors were Jack Moore and Mr. & Mrs. Gibbons; Jack Moffat, A. C. Brown and family and the J. Pratt family. The children attended the Innisfail school and remember as teachers Miss Pierce and Miss Lilian Edgar. They belonged to the Tillicum Club, played basketball and tennis; and attended St. Mark's Anglican Church. Before the advent of the automobile, the Champ family enjoyed trips in a democrat to Sylvan and Pine Lakes for picnics. Myrtle and Dorothy were employed with the early installations of the Alberta Government Telephones; Charles went to Calgary for a brief course in barbering, but came back to Innisfail to farm.

Myrtle married Jack Scott in June 1923. One daughter, Betty, was born in 1924. Jack was tragically killed in an accident in November, 1923. In June 1931, Myrtle married Einar Stephenson; their children are Bill (born 1935), Lloyd (born 1938) and Margaret (born 1939).

Charles married Jessie Niblock in August 1937. They are still farming east of Innisfail along with their son, Bill.

Dorothy married Stan Edwards in August 1930.

William Champ died in Innisfail on March 18, 1953 at the age of 85.

WILLIAM WYNNDHAM CHANNELL by Beatrice Channell

Mr. Channell came from England to Canada in 1891. He ranched on the Bow River south of the Blackfoot Reserve at Gleichen, 45 miles from Calgary. He and his wife Beatrice had four sons: Arthur, William, Patrick and Herbert.

They came to Innisfail from Calgary in 1919 finding Innisfail a thriving town with many friends. Rev. Orton had attended the same boy's school in England as William and George Bryan, Dr. Holmes and Mr.

Oldham were old acquaintances. The Channell's farmed for a while in the Red Lodge district. Mrs. Channell worked as Mr. Oldham's stenographer in 1925 and was stenographer in Mr. O'Neil's Law office in Innisfail from 1926 to 1959 when she retired. She remained in Innisfail until 1970 when she moved to the Big Chief Trailer Park in Vernon, B.C. Mr. Channell died in 1963.

CARL CHRISTIANSEN by Eva Castella

Carl Christiansen was born in 1877 in Denmark. He emigrated to West Branch, Iowa in 1893. He attended a folk school in Elkhorn to learn the English language and later went to college at Blair, Nebraska. It was here that he met Laura, the second daughter of Mrs. Marie Christiansen. They were married in 1901. They moved to Omaha where Carl worked as a clerk in a grocery store. About this time the Canadian Gov't, had the homestead act which promised title to a quarter section after three years residence. Carl and several other families decided that this was an opportunity of a life time. Pastor G.B. Christiansen of Omaha urged them to form a congregation so that they could bring the church with them to this new land. This meeting was held in my parents home. They arrived in Innisfail in July of 1903, by rail. Then they shifted to wagons and began the journey westward to their new home. The first day they arrived at Dan Morkebergs' and stayed there overnight. The next day they travelled the last 10 miles to their new home. To their dismay, the land was mostly covered with water. Two men had looked at this the previous winter but at that time the sloughs were frozen and covered with snow. They knew there was no turning back now. My parents lived in a tent that first summer and it must have been difficult for my mother having her first son Homo only 6 months old at the time. My parent's home was to become the first post office in the settlement.

My sister Esther was born during the homestead days and was the first child born in the settlement of Dickson. My father built a store in 1909 and they moved from the homestead to the new home above the store. The store is still serving the community. The first purchase recorded was the sale of a hammer for 25c to Axel Lundgren. All freight had to be hauled by wagon and horses from Innisfail. The roads were not good and sometimes this trip took two days.

Because there was not much cash money in the settlement, lumber, pigs, cattle and other farm produce was traded for groceries. During the time when new settlers were coming to the district my parents would see to it that they had the necessities to keep going until they became better established.

After moving to the home above the store, there were three more children: Bernice, Eva and Gordon. My parents were not only active in the community affairs, but in the church until their death. My father died in 1945 and my Mother in 1955.

THE H.L. CHRISTIE STORY

Hans L. Christie was born Feb. 4, 1898 in Bergen, Norway. In 1920 he came to Canada for the first time to his cousins farm called Norway farm at Strath-

more. In 1921 he came to Innisfail to work for Mr. Price in the Little Red Deer District. He stayed there for the summer and then went to work for Mr. Jim Rogers. He recalls how very good the Rogers family were to him and treated him as a son. He returned to Norway to get financial aid to buy his own farm which he did and named it the Antler Hill Farm.

He cleared his land with an axe himself and remembers standing in the middle of a section cutting away when suddenly an old man with a white beard (Mr. A.C. Brown) came up to him and said "Young man do you know what you are doing" — Mr. Christie replied that he certainly did and eventually even cleared Mr. Browns' land for him too. He bought 3/4 sections of land. This area was so heavy with brush mostly poplars and willows. By the next year he had broken 120 acres. It was a dry year and nothing was grown by anyone else, but because Mr. Christie had nice virgin soil it was able to yield 45 bus. to the acre.

The next year John Schie came over from Norway to be in the employ of H.L. Christie. He was strong too and so they cleared 100 acres a year. — picking the roots and breaking the land. At this time they lived in a granary and did their cooking once a week making enough to last the rest of the time. Then he got a chain driven Waterloo tractor and began clearing and breaking for others on contract. Later Maynard, Andy & Bernard Schie came out to work also. In 1927 he moved from his granary to his first home that he built.

He brought the first skis into the district — bringing them from Norway. They were the cross country long narrow type and he recalls Tom Morton with his galloping horse pulling him on a rope behind and never once did he take a spill. Many a time he skied out to friends at Dickson for dinner. He now says that he needed some type of exercise after cutting trees all the rest of the time.

He raised wheat mostly, but branched out into other grains too. He started in Herefords, buying from John Wilson Sr. at \$40. each. He soon tired of this because of the extensive bookwork required for this type of cattle. He then went into pigs — He had 6,000 at one time and shipped as much as 5 carloads in 1 day — 40 to a carload. In his pig barn which he built with his own machine that made cement blocks, had 2 storeys. Also his machine shop he made the same way. He had 2 steam plants to heat the buildings. They operated with automatic stokers, using coal he hauled from Alex.

At one time he thought it would be best to cut his own lumber than to buy it and so erected a sawmill. This nearly ended in tragedy as a slab hit him in the stomach and he was desperately ill — but being of good Norweigen stock amazed his doctor and friends by being back on the combine soon after.

At a later time he converted his hog barn into a place for turkeys. He had 25 thousand turkeys and sold poults and eggs. He had 4500 eggs in the incubator at one time. Mr. Christie has always been ingenious and built the first dishwasher in the coun-

try — He made it out of a washing machine tub and lawn sprinkler. He could use it because he had steam heat for heating purposes anyway and could fasten this machine to it. He never had to have his machinery hauled to town for repairs as he could do this himself. He made his own power plant — starting first with a pump motor and putting a generator on it — giving him the desired electric lights. Later he built and erected a wind mill. This worked with batteries. He was the first farmer anywhere in the district to get rural electrification from Calgary Power and had to pay for the full line in order to get it. This was in 1930.

He married Emily Krogh (from Norway) in 1930. They have three children Lorentz, Emily (Mrs. John Puckett of Los Angeles) and Harold a geologist in Calgary.

He remembers when he first arrived meeting George Ingham and the thing that made him decide to stay was when he was on his way out to Prices he saw a deer on the road and being the great sportsman he is — knew this was the spot for him.

There have been many arrowheads found on the North side of his Antler Hill farm and it was from very near this spot that Anthony (Henday) the first white man to see the Rocky Mountains stood gazing on the vast wilderness that is now a home to the H.L. Christies.

A.E. (ED) CHUTE 1905-1970 by Alfred M. Chute

The first member of this family to arrive in this area was Dad's uncle, Andrew F. Chute. He came in 1901-1902 in company of a family named Wilcox from Blue Earth, Minnesota. They lived in Innisfail until about 1910 or 11, then moved to Salem, Oregon. Uncle Andrew homesteaded in the Milner-ton District. Wilcox daughter, Mary (Mrs. Whit Gunston) lived in Innisfail for many years.

At or near the same time W. S. Clark (Mother's oldest brother) came here from Kansas, U.S.A. and homesteaded the land where the Glen Ellen School was. Mother, urged by her brother arrived here in the spring of 1904 and went to work for Wallace Parcher. Parchers' Hall was the focal point for dances socials and all sorts of events.

Dad arrived in Innisfail April 1, 1905 from Yakima, Wash. where he had been working when the irrigation system was being built. He was born in Fairchild, Wis. Oct. 3, 1879. He drifted west in his late teens to Seattle and thence to the Yakima Valley. He came to Innisfail only to visit his uncle and the Wilcox family, but stayed on to homestead and spent the next 65 years in this area.

Horses, wagons and buggies were the common modes of travel at this time. I had a picture of my mother and uncle Will sitting in a wagon, axle deep in mud patiently waiting for their team of oxen to decide to move on.

Dad was a skilled horseman and when homesteading he worked much of the time in Innisfail and was employed for some time by W. G. Wilson as a teamster. Some of the things he assisted in building were: The Bank of Commerce Building and the twin

building in Claresholm (in the employ of Mr. Frank Malcolm Sr.), the old brick school, the Chas. MacCallum house (now Green Gables), and the William Kittley house. From 1909 until 1915 Dad was employed by Mr. Wilson in his draying and transfer business. From 1915-1937 he worked for a number of Insurance Companies in the hail insurance field and as a collector for machine companies. With the outbreak of war he was employed in the construction and later as a fireman at the flying training schools at Penhold and Bowden. Next he spent three seasons at Brewster's Chalet at Maligne Lake in Jasper Park and then rounded out a long life with 14 yrs as caretaker at the Innisfail Hospital. His first illness was his last and he died in May of 1970 still alert in the mind but frail in the body.

Some of the neighbors of the homestead days were: Tom Dobson, Roland Moore, the Oakes family, Mike Walton, Jim and Bill Darragh, R. Gano, R. Dickson, Robt Archer, Jas Layden, William Beatty, Wm Moran, Charles Butler and Wm Martin whose daughter Opal had the town of Opal (Alberta) named for her. George Thurston had the post office at Milnerton. It must be remembered that by this time there were towns, railroads and neighbors — neighbors actually being more plentiful than today. It was really a period of development and expansion. Dad had great respect for the pioneers and was a bit contemptuous for those who claimed to be more than old timers. Dad related a story of locating two young men on a homestead. They were unloaded on the prairie with everything needed to build their house, fence their land. A few days later they came on foot to the homestead and said that if Dad would get their trunk and get it to Innisfail he could have everything else there was — so their misfortune became his small windfall. (Their homestead was some miles east of where Trochu now stands)

Money in the early days was in short supply — however, Dad brought some funds with him and he was always employed. He could always provide for his family and in fact those earlier days were better financially than they were in the depression years.

Dad married Mary L. Clark from Manhattan, Kansas Nov. 17, 1905 in Innisfail. They had three sons and one daughter: Alfred M. born July 31, 1906 (resides here), Edythe E. born Oct. 30, 1908 married Oscar Lundgren July 1928 and had three sons. Deceased June 1969. — Edward Clark (Ted) born April 15, 1915 married Louise Tester in 1939 and has 4 sons and 2 daughters. They reside in Dawson Creek B.C. where he is Supervisor of V.L.A. Willis Glen (Bill) married Claire Walman and lives in Edmonton. They have two sons. He is director of Personnel for A.G.T.

The second winter on the homestead was the infamous one of 1906-07 about which reams have been written. To Dad and Mother however, it was just a long hard winter. They had ample feed for their stock and shelter and a warm house and huge wood pile and were fortunate in not losing stock. Some were not as fortunate Moores, Oakes and the Hargreaves Bros.

Jesse and Heber did loose considerable cattle. Pat Burns fed steers at Knee Hill Flats and Dad told of four year olds, fat as could be and bedded in hay but with the hair frozen on their backs. Dad always claimed that the worst storm he ever saw was on the night of Oct. 30, 1908, Edythe's birthday. Uncle Andrew mounted on a saddle horse almost lost his life in a vain attempt to get the midwife, as she refused to come. Mrs. Barwis was at a close neighbors, so with a good team hitched to a sleigh with a high box, lots of blankets and a sleigh robe, and with Dad walking ahead and Uncle driving they found their way the short distance angle ways across a section. Mrs. Barwis was willing to come and all ended safely and well. A severe hailstorm in 1908 that wiped out crops and damaged homes — together without being a farmer at heart prompted them to sell out and move to Innisfail in 1909. They built a cottage on the east side of town and Innisfail has since been home. Dad was one of the hundreds who lived a completely uneventful and undistinguished life, but to whom we of today owe our present circumstances for they laid the foundation on which all we have today is built.

Mother — deceased — March 1942, Dad — deceased May, 1970, Edythe — deceased June 1969. All are interred in the Innisfail Cemetery.

The business establishment of Innisfail in the early days was among other: G.W. West, F.M. Oldham, S.P. Fream, T.G. Onsum, Jesse Stewart, Curry & Constantine, Archer & Simpson, Royal and Alberta Hotels, Lundy Meat Mkt, Wm Kemp, J.T. Rogers, Gilmore, Chas. McCallum, Fumertons, Wm Geary, W. Fawdrey, W.G. Wilson, P.L. Grasse, Union & Canadian Bank of Commerce. Carrie Marshall in the phone office. Alex Munro and Bob Sharp. As important to that day as garages or service stations are today, was the Pioneer Barn and the Twin Livery for feed, stables, rentals of horses, buggies and drivers. The Kremer brickyard was in operation. Jack Wilson was one blacksmith — there was A.E. Keast. Drs. Grimshaw and Allen were very important members of the district. W.G. McArthur — furniture and undertaker.

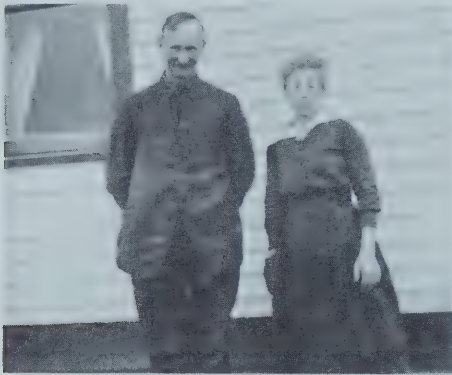
THE CLIFFORD STORY by Annie Kinsella

My Dad, William Clifford, was born at Orville (Parry Sound District), Ontario, in 1873. My Mother, Annie Clifford nee Annie Appleyard, was born in Castleford, Yorkshire, England in 1868, coming to the Muskoka District of Ontario as a young girl. She went through school and became a teacher; then she met and married my Dad in 1894. They moved up to Haileybury in northern Ontario, travelling to the end of the railroad on a freight train; then the rest of the way by boat. My brother, Ernest, was the first white baby born there; the Indians came to see him and called him 'the White Papoose'. There were lots of timber wolves and sometimes they would howl near the house. This was quite terrifying to mother when Dad was away at the lumber camp; especially when she had to go through the bush to the barn to feed the cows. Dad and Mother moved back to the Parry Sound district in 1899 where they farmed until

moving to Alberta in 1914. Ernest travelled in a freight car with our belongings and livestock; Dad and Mother with their six daughters — Vera, Edna, Edith, Annie, Elva and Audrey — came on the passenger train.

The west looked pretty good to us with its large wheat fields and vast horizons after coming from a bush country with small fields and close-up views. Dad purchased a farm about nine miles east of Vulcan. On our arrival from Ontario, we were met at Vulcan with a sleigh, and one of our first adventures was an upset in the snow on the way to my Uncle's farm.

There was a bumper crop in 1915 and 1916, so Dad and Mother were soon able to pay for their farm and buy a new Reo car; but the good crops were soon over and they were being dried out. The Innisfail district looked good to Dad, so they bought a farm from Blair McMillan, about two miles south of Innisfail, and moved there with their girls in 1919. Ernest had married a neighbor girl and remained on our Vulcan farm for a year or two.



Wm. and Annie Clifford

Our farm at Innisfail was all hay land. One corner was the site of an old cemetery from which the graves were all supposed to have been removed. There were no buildings except one stable for horses, so we stayed at a neighbor's, Gardner-Smith's, for the winter. This family became very dear friends. In the spring, my father and Obie Scarfe, a neighbor also, built our house and cultivated land for grain crops. There was lots of work to making a new home. Other neighbors were the Bryan brothers, Denny and Alan, who with their families had adjoining farms. George Oxtoby and his sons Roy and Milton each had farms close by; also William Ellison and his sister Mrs. Creary — a very dear friend of my mother's and later, after the death of mother, she became our beloved step-mother. She was also the owner of the thirty acres on which the schools of today stand. This was bought by the town officials by arbitration.

My brother, who had served in the army during the world war, was killed in a coal mining accident in 1923. A year or so later Mother developed cancer and was bed-ridden until her death in 1930. Many a time Dad left his work in the field to come in and

help move her and never once was there a word or look of complaint.

One of our greatest pleasures was to pack a picnic lunch on a Sunday morning and drive to Sylvan Lake for the day. To our prairie-raised eyes, the water and trees were a source of great delight.

On coming to Innisfail, my sister Vera became cashier in Hodges Store and later married Seth Cummins of Mayton district where they still live in retirement on their farm. Edna cared for our Mother, then moved to Vancouver and at present is retired in Penticton, B.C. Edith married Roy Oxtoby, a widower of this district, and raised his two boys along with her own family. She died on December 21, 1942 at the early age of 40 and is buried in the Innisfail Cemetery. We three younger girls finished our schooling in the old brick school in Innisfail, trudging to school through knee-deep drifts and temperatures of 20 and 30 below in the winter. Mr. Din-smore and Mr. Reeves were the High School teachers at that time. Mrs. Hughie Hodge taught me for half a year in High School, but her regular classes were Grade VII. Both my sisters had her in that grade and later on she taught each of my children, one of the finest teachers of all times. As each one of us finished High School, we attended Normal School in Camrose and became teachers in country schools. Elva met and married Lars Larson, a farmer at Donald and now lives in retirement in Donald. Audrey married Gordon Ortwein and lives on their farm in the Mayton District about twenty miles NW of Olds. I married Bill Kinsella and farmed in the Innisfail district until his death in 1963, when I moved into town. My father and step-mother sold their farm to us in 1936 and moved to Burnaby B.C. where they lived until the passing of Dad in 1952. My step-mother, with Edna, moved to Penticton, where she lived in good health and wonderful mentality to the age of almost 102 years. She died in 1969. They both rest in the Innisfail cemetery, side by side with my mother.

FRANK AND RETA COLE by Reta Cole

March 27th, 1914 was a cold snowy day, the day a young man stopped off the train in Innisfail to weekend visit with his relatives, Mr. & Mrs. H.S. Parsons. The young visitor was William Franklyn Cole. He was born in Tyrone, Ontario in 1887. Being fancy free after a visit to his home in Bowmanville, Ontario, he was making his second trip west intending to go on to B.C. where he had worked in the lumber business prior to 1914. That he would stay in Innisfail had not occurred to him. At a social function he was introduced to a young girl, native born daughter of early settlers of Innisfail. In a few hours he decided to linger a while in town.

Two years later on April 4, 1916 William Franklyn Cole and Reta Wilhelmina Varty were married by Rev. R.E. Finlay.

The town was now over twenty years old with the usual ups and downs, and growing pains that any new, but enterprising town has. Commercial travellers were numerous and because of the train service, the town was their favorite place to stop over



The Cole Family: Stan, Reta, Frank, Dudley, Melvin, Marilyn, Don, Elaine.

night. Sandy Dundas had renovated the Royal Hotel and although it may have been short on plumbing it was considered an excellent place. Streets were being named like Brett St, Alberta Street, Railway Street, Poplar Street. There were between six and seven hundred people who called Innisfail home.

During the years between 1914 and 1916 W.F. Cole had various occupations that in many instances took him away from home. He always had a special gift for salesmanship and at one time or another sold everything from land to cars, trucks to barbwire. He did a lot of hunting and trapping and bought and sold furs in large quantities to Simpson and Lea of Calgary.

Dave Arnell was Innisfail's most arousing, high pressure Auctioneer and W.F. Cole was his clerk and sometimes auctioneer. They had a tremendous district to cover. Many and varied are the tales told of these farm sales. They were never dull and a kind of holiday atmosphere accompanied the sale. The West Country seemed to pick Spring sale days. Weather conditions never stopped them.

The oil industry was just emerging and W.F. Cole was buying and selling oil shares. This business proved to be reasonably successful. In 1931 W.F. Cole started in a small way to buy cattle and other live stock. He enjoyed this type of work as he was raised on a farm. He became a licensed dealer in the Live-stock business. In 1946, his son Stanley joined him in a partnership "Cole and Sons". This continued until W.F. Coles' sudden death in 1953.

I recall that in the year of 1914 a number of young unmarried and newly married people came to Innisfail, to mention a few: Dr. G.C. Wagner, Dr. Fred Turner and his bride, George Ingham and his wife and daughter Mildred, Dr. Washburn (who had all the young ladies entranced), Stanley Forbes who was a fashion plate for the younger people to admire and Nan Schearer (Mrs. Hugh Hodge) and Miss Leslie came about this time too.

We had a famous baseball team in 1914-15. Louis St. Denis was the star performer on the field. There too were Fleet Kirkham, Jack deLong, and Fred Bye. The Football teams' captain was Frank Cole with Percy Hill, Fred Watkins, H.J. Percy and Rev. Orton among the participants. Hockey was played with enthusiasm as were the skating competitions. Frank was active in all, and received medals for figure skating. Dancing remained Frank and Reta's special relaxation for many years.

Others here early that Frank and I knew so well were Jack Dodd, farmer; Tom Lauder, our original cowboy; George Walker, the harness-maker; Rev. Goddard, a fine fisherman; John Honan, the silent partner type. Men from all walks of life were Franks' friends and remained so. Frank had a great capacity for meeting people and enjoying their friendships.

Children born to Frank and Reta Cole were:

William Melvin, born 1918, married Wava Gullekson. They have two children. Melvin joined the R.C.A.F. in 1940. He was a Pilot Officer and flying instructor. Later he changed to the Wireless Bombing and Gunnery and became a Ft/Lt. He was attached to the R.A.F. on Coastal Command. He was discharged in 1946. In 1967 he received the Centennial Medal of Honor from the Alberta Government. In 1971 he graduated from the University of Alberta in Business Administration. His son and daughter graduated the same day from the same University. Melvin has been Bursar and business manager of the School for the Deaf in Edmonton for the past seventeen years and resides in Edmonton.

Stanley Franklyn Cole was born in Innisfail in 1921. He joined the Canadian Army in 1940 and served five years. Three years he was overseas, and two years in combat duty as dispatch rider. He received his discharge in 1946. In 1950 he enlisted again in the Canadian Army and served overseas again for three years. In 1964 he was posted to Ottawa National Defence Headquarters and served there seven years. He also served a year in the Arctic at Alert. In 1971, Stan received an honorable discharge from the R.C.E. after completing twenty-eight years in the service. Stan has one daughter and resides in Innisfail. His wife was the former Kristine Litzenberger.

Dudley Miller was born in 1924, is married to Shirley Turchinsky and they reside in Calgary.

Elaine Reta, was born in 1928; is married to Donald Davis. They have five children and they reside in Medicine Hat, Alberta.

Don Gaylor was born in 1931 and is married to Frances Fyfe. They reside in Calgary.

Marilyn Reta was born in 1935 and is married to James Pawluk. They have five children and reside in Calgary.

Laura Louise was born in 1947 and is married to William Atkinson and they have one daughter and reside in Calgary.

THE CONN FAMILY by Mrs. Gladys (Conn) Munro

John Conn was the first one of the family to come west in 1900. He came from Collingwood County, Heathcote village, located southwest of Owen Sound, Ontario, where he was born in 1863. He bought homestead land about 15 miles southwest of Red Deer in the Pine Hill district. In 1901 he travelled back to Ontario to bring mother and six children west. The trip took about one week and they brought most of their household goods and furnishings and also a quantity of hardwood flooring. Dad had farmed in Ontario. In 1904 John Conn bought a section

of land seven miles west of Innisfail. He built a two storey house which still remains and is occupied by Leslie and Gladys Munro.

Dad bought a threshing outfit and each fall he did custom threshing in the district around Markerville. We always had dairy cattle and mother kept hens providing the family with a constant source of food. We were never deprived of the necessities of life.

The first neighbors in the district were Sullivans, Batemans, Duncans, Aldens, and Munro's. Later Potters, Scotts, McGrandles, Browns, Brandts and Giles came to settle on land in the district.

The winters seemed to be extremely cold. It was very cold for men cutting and hauling wood for fuel and supplies. It was also a cold job hauling grain to market by team and sleigh.

One point of interest to all people passing our farm was a horse-driven treadmill which pumped water for the house, barn and pig pens. During Mr. Conn's spare time he attempted writing poetry, some of which was published in the Innisfail paper. He also conducted the occasional church service at Big Bend and enjoyed singing hymns. The men in the district played football on summer evenings. In the winter checkers and chess were popular games and skating provided good outdoor entertainment.

Mother usually completed two or three patchwork quilts each winter.

The first school in the district was built in 1903 in a central location on Sec. 11-36-1-5 and named Big Bend. Most of the early families attended this school for their elementary education. Many of the teachers boarded at our house since it was close to the school and a large house. Miss Margaret Clarke was one of the first teachers with a salary of \$50.00 a month. The school was also used for church services, Christmas concerts and other social activities including the annual Sunday School Picnic.

The Ladies Aid was organized in 1913 at the home of Mrs. C.W. Brandt with Rev. R.E. Finley presiding. The first members were Mrs. Wm. Munro, Mrs. C.W. Brandt, Mrs. I. Bateman, Mrs. Sullivan, Mrs. Moore, Mrs. Giles, Eva Brandt, Fern Brandt, and Mrs. Wm. Alden. Mrs. Munro was elected President. This group was very active in making quilts, sewing bazaar articles, and sponsoring chicken suppers. They gave money donations and quilts to the ministers' families. Mrs. Conn was an active member of this group, and Marion and Gladys Conn also joined. The Ladies Aid disbanded in 1932 and reorganized in 1937 and has continued as an active organization up to the present time. It is now known as the Big Ben U.C.W. Gladys (Conn) Munro has been a member since 1919 and is an honorary member of the U.C.W. at the present time.

The Big Bend Church and Sunday School was organized in 1902. Lily, Marion, Albert, Wilbert, Elmer, and Gladys Conn were enrolled in the first Sunday School Class.

John Conn married Mary Grace Hortop in February 1887. Mrs. Conn died in 1937; Mr. Conn died in 1943; both interred in Innisfail.



John Conn Family, 1910: Marion, Mr. Conn, Wilbert, Albert, Elmer, Lily, Gladys, Irene, Mrs. Conn

Their eldest daughter was named Lily Mabel, born in 1887, and married Melville Woodley in 1912. They lived in Calgary. Lily died in 1938 and is buried in Innisfail.

Albert, eldest son, was born in 1891 and married Fern Brandt. They built a house north of the home place and farmed 160 acres there. They had five children. Albert died in 1967, buried in Innisfail.

Wilbert was born in 1893, married Leta Ogilvie and they had two children. They farmed in the district and later moved east of Innisfail. Wilbert died in 1953 and is buried in Innisfail.

Marion Jean Conn was born in 1895 and married George Daly. They farmed east of Edmonton. They had five children.

Elmer was born in 1898, and married Jessie Scott, and they farmed land west of the home place. They had three children.

Gladys Buelah Conn was born in 1900 and married Leslie Munro in 1924. They farmed land north of the Big Bend School. They had a family of four children. After his wife died in 1937, Mr. John Conn sold the farm to Leslie and Gladys where they and their son have continued farming.

Grace Irene Conn was born in 1907 and married Robert Brown in 1930. They lived in Innisfail until 1939, then they moved to Pincher Creek.

ARCHDEACON ROBERT CONNELL by Gwen Pope

The late Archdeacon Robert Connell was rector of St. Mark's Anglican Church, Innisfail, from 1897 to 1901. The records of his life are not complete, but there is a christening recorded as taken by him April 14, 1897, so he must have come early in that year. He came to Canada, on his own, as a very young man, was made a Deacon in 1895, ordained in 1896 in Calgary by Cyprian Pinkham, Bishop of Saskatchewan and Calgary, and was a missionary at Beaver Lake, N.W.T. from 1895 to 1897.

While in Innisfail, he rode a horse and drove a team and buggy to take services at Penhold, Knee Hill Valley, Pine Lake, and occasionally Olds and Hillsdown. While in charge of St. Mark's, "The Calgary Diocesan Magazine" was published monthly in Innisfail, Rev. Robert being the editor.

He was married: "This day were married Robert Connell, Clerk, Incumbent of St. Mark's, Innisfail, Bachelor and Jane Catherine Hodson, of the same Parish, Spinster, by me, Cyprian Saskatchewan,

Calgary. Witnesses: Samuel Hodson, David Connell, Augusta E. Hodson, Margaret M. Hodson”.

It is interesting to read the report of their twins’ Christening — it brings in the names of old timers — “Robert Humphrey and Samuel Gore, sons of Robert and Janie Catherine Connell, Born 27, March 1899; Baptized 11, May, Ascension Day. Godparents for R.H.: Samuel Hodson, Augusta Ellen Hodson, Thos. A. Nicholson, Stella Hetherington. Godparents for S.G.: Samuel Hodson, Kate Gore Hodson, John A. Pope, Margaret Mary Hodson.”

The register also shows: “Marriage 20 June, 1899 of John Allen Pope, Pine Lake, and Margaret Mary Hodson of St. Marks, by Rev. Connell”, and mentions, “The last service of Rev. Connell as of 11 a.m. 31 Oct. 1901.”

He was appointed to St. Lukes, Cedar Hill — 1901. They had a third son, John. They lived a very busy life living in many places, eventually living in Victoria where Rev. Connell became Canon Lecturer Christ Church Cathedral Sept. 1, 1939 - 42; during this time, May 1940, he was made Hon. Archdeacon of Comox.

THE CHARLES H. CONNER FAMILY by Mrs. George Inglis

Charlie Conner and wife Carrie along with their two children Sadie and Elling came to Innisfail in 1914. Mr. Conner was born in Waseca, Minnesota, Feb. 4, 1867. They first lived in Neihart, Montana where he was a miner and was elected to the State Legislature. He helped pass the 8 hr. law for miners. The Conners then moved to Eureka, Montana in 1900 to farm. They raised fruit and vegetables for the saw mill market, but by 1914 the majority of the available logs had been cut so it was then they decided to come to Alberta. Having heard that around Innisfail there was good land, it was this spot they picked.

Money for the train fare was short and we were adventurous, so we decided to drive. September 2nd we left, driving a fairly large wagon with tent and some supplies and a small buggy or democrat, as we learned it was called in Canada. We drove through the Crows’ Nest Pass from Elko and camped one night at Coleman, Alberta. I think it was somewhere between Coleman and Pincher Creek we turned north east to cut some miles from the journey to Ft. McLeod and

north. We passed farms and cattle on the way and came to the north-south highway just south of High River. The night we were at High River we made our beds and slept in an abandoned farm house by the way.

One horse of our smaller driving team had a colt, and he followed along very well but when we came to Calgary we had to take roads around on his account. Later he grew to be a beautiful saddle horse.

We got to Innisfail September 14th and drove out to Raven where Dad had bargained for a place tentatively. We stayed there while he returned home to take up potatoes, pick apples etc. Then with vegetables, two cows and horses and furniture in a railway car, he returned. While in Innisfail then he learned there were a lot of back taxes on the place we intended to buy so we gave up the bargain and came to Innisfail for a few days. By this time Dad had rented a farm from August Goldstrom who was having a sale and he and his family were leaving for Oregon. This place we rented (now owned by Lillian & Hugh Parcels) was our home until 1919.

Sadie and Elling attended Clarendon school and our teacher was Mr. MacDonald who boarded a bit north at the Bob Niblock home.

Early neighbors were Songhursts, Sniders, Bakers, Marshalls, Jack Coulthwaite, the Ellis family, Bob Wells, Rickards, Blakes, Langevins and Halls.

In 1919 we moved to the Joe Ward place two miles south and one mile east. In those days we picked many wild raspberries for canning and black currants, also an abundance of saskatoons. Dad was a great United Farmers of Alberta worker and he did all he could to help elect Donald Cameron from the Lakeview district as a member of the Alberta Legislature.

Sadie married Waylie Ellis when he returned from overseas in 1921. They went to live west of Huxley on a Soldier Settlement farm. There two children Cicely and Doris were born. In 1926 they came to live again on the Ellis place. It had been sold earlier and returned to the Ellis family. Two more children were born to Waylie and Sadie at that time — Fay and Sydney.

A new school district was set up and named West Lynne. The children attended, — riding horse back the four miles. We kept them home if it was colder than 15’ below. See Ellis Story.

Elling Conner married Dorothy Moore and they went to live at Pine Lake. They had two sons, Lloyd and Glen and also raised a niece, Ruth Sundberg’s daughter after Ruth died. Lloyd died when very young. Corrine is now a trained psychiatrist working in Ontario. Glen is an R.N. at Ponoka and is married to Sandy Middleton. They have two children Janette and Brent.

The Conners Sr. left the Ward place and rented a farm in the Pine Lake District where in 1938 they had the misfortune to have the house they were living in burn down. It was too late to save much of their possessions when help arrived. Mother and Dad then came to live with Waylie and Sadie. Dad wintered his



Charlie Conner on his saddle horse “Singer”.

herd of cattle at our place and drove them to Ellings' farm for summer pasture. He was an excellent rider and rode to within a few months of his death in 1947.

Mother lived to be seventy years old, and she loved to cook good meals and feed people. She passed away in 1939.

Waylie died in 1953 from a cerebral haemorrhage and is interred in Innisfail Cemetery.

Sadie and Doris went to Red Deer to live for some years. In 1962 Sadie married George Inglis from the Antler Hill district. They farmed for some time until 1971. They are now retired and living in Red Deer.

GEORGE LEWIS CONSTANTINE by Jean Constantine Grey

My father, George Lewis Constantine came from Moncton, N.B. He came by train to Innisfail in 1891. Father was a blacksmith by trade. He homesteaded in Innisfail. It was mother, two brothers (Bliss & Frank) and sister Mabel and myself that accompanied him to Innisfail. He went into the store business at one time, but the store didn't pay for itself. You just couldn't run a store without any money. I remember my father having a customer come in and ask the price of something — Father replied, "Take it, you won't pay for it anyway".

We went into the boarding house business in Innisfail — charging \$7.00 a week. Mother's flock of geese marched up & down the streets, everyone taking it as a matter of course. My mother was a very good cook, but we children worked very hard too. There were 6 children in our family (some had died early in life) and mother also had a Bernardo boy she got when he was five years old. The first teacher we had was Mr. Chappel. He was Irish. We had to cross the tracks to go to school so Mabel went to Calgary to school and became a teacher. She went to the convent. She taught in Innisfail and other places. She was first paid \$45. per month. Bliss, my brother, worked for H.J. Percy in the bake shop. He delivered bread to the stores in town and brought in wood and water for the bake shop. Brother Frank worked in a hardware store in Innisfail & later in Cranbrook. Bliss came to Sedgewick with me when Percy's sold their bakery and went to Ponoka.

I shall never forget the lovely "Morris Chair" the boarders gave mother one Christmas. It was so nice. Mabel was born in 1881, my twin and I were born in 1884. (My twin died at the age of 7 in 1891.). Bliss was born in 1882. Mother died in 1925 and then we moved to Sedgewick. Father had died before this time because of having an accident and breaking his leg. He refused to have his foot taken off and gangrene set in and he died. He is buried in Innisfail.

(When asked if she would like to come back to Innisfail — her reply was that it was far away and would cost too much to get there. Mrs. Grey is in a home in Camrose.)

LACY COOK by Violet (Cook) Sveinson

Lacy Cook came to Innisfail in the autumn of 1902, from Kent, England where he was born in February, 1873. He was accompanied by his wife

Caroline (Sullivan). (They were married in London, Eng. in 1899), and daughters Dorothy and Marjorie. Dad caught Scarlet Fever on the train coming west, and so did Dorothy. Dorothy died, but Dad recovered.

Dad was born on a farm in England, but was a fruit and vegetable buyer for a big market in London. After he came to Innisfail, besides farming, he did any kind of a job that would earn him a dollar, regardless of what it might be. He hauled wood, lumber, hay, and dug graves.

Children:

Marjorie married Dan MacLean lives in Ottawa

Annie married Willie Johnson lives in Vancouver

Violet married Waldie Sveinson lives in Markerville

Francis married Wyndam Rees lives in Calgary

Jack married Adeline Johnson lives in Calgary

Kathleen married H.T. Munro lives in Vancouver

Mabel married L. Donovan lives in Vancouver

Evelyn married Don Blair lives in Vancouver

Dennis lives in Calgary

Our first neighbors were Andersons, Bakers, Parsons, Rhodes, Mustards and Vandaeles. Marjorie and Annie took their first schooling in Calgary. They stayed with Dad's sister. We later attended Markerville, and Spruceview for grades 1 to 9. Some of us attended Calgary High Schools, some Innisfail and Dickson. People made their own recreation with house parties, concerts, picnics, etc. Mother sang at every concert for miles around. She drove an old horse with a buggy in summer and an old cutter in winter. Dad would butcher a steer, pig, or cow and take the meat by wagon to Innisfail to trade it for groceries. He always wrapped the meat in Mother's good white linen sheets which she had brought with her from England. Anyway, the meat was always clean. Dad died in June 1953 and mother in 1966; both are buried in Innisfail cemetery.

THE COOKE FAMILY by Dorothy, Alberta and Perry Cooke

It was in the year, 1889, that the Cooke family came to what was then Poplar Grove, in the North-West Territories, so they were amongst the real old-timers or pioneers.

Ralph Cooke came out to Canada from Ireland when only fourteen years of age, at the time of the potato famine in Ireland — about 1850. He came out to an uncle in Ontario, who had a hotel or stopping place at William's Ford, close to Georgian Bay. Some years later, Ralph went to Buffalo where he met and married Annie Bluff, who was born in Waterford, Ireland. Annie's father was an English soldier and her mother a Waterford girl. Ralph and Annie lived in Canada for some years: their eldest child, Caroline, being born in Montreal. Our father, Harry Cooke, was born at William's Ford and most of the others were born in Buffalo.

Then Ralph had "the urge of the wandering foot" and decided to try his luck in the west which was just opening up. So the family and a carload of their belongings came west to Calgary. They stayed there

for about a year while deciding where to pick a homestead. They met many well-known Calgary olimers, including Pat Burns, Paddy Nolan, Postmaster King, the Lougheeds, the Pinkhams and Bob Edwards.

The railway to Edmonton was not built yet, so Ralph and his son, Harry, then fourteen years of age, drove up the Edmonton trail and took homesteads just south of Poplar Grove. Incidentally, a young Englishman, named William Champ, came up at about the same time.

Two of Annie Cooke's brothers, Tom Bluff and Harry Bluff, also came out to the west; Tom shortly after the Cookes came and Harry about 1904. Tom took a homestead where the Medicine River flows into the Red Deer, and Harry took one south of Harry Cooke's place. Later Denys and Louella Bryan lived on that place. Harry Bluff was a shoemaker in Innisfail for a number of years and was a great friend of George Walker the harness-maker. He ended his days living with the Harry Cookes. He died in 1914.



New house built by R. Cooke called "The Gables".

Harry Cooke used to tell of freighting from Calgary by ox-team, and said they could only make about ten miles per day with a load, so the stopping houses were about ten miles apart, and that is why the towns along the Calgary-Edmonton Trail are approximately that distance apart.

Ralph's homestead on the Edmonton Trail was about a mile south of Poplar Grove, the farm now occupied by the Ullmans and is now right on the outskirts of Innisfail. The Cooke's first house was; a long, low log house with a sod roof. Their eldest daughter, Caroline (Carry) was married to Harry Young of Calgary in 1896 and we have a picture of the occasion taken in front of this house. Children of the Youngs were Fay (Mrs. Vern Watt) of Balzac, Ada, Ralph (who died two years ago), Desmond (who lives in Calgary) and Vera Turner of Vegreville. Fay had one son and Vera three children.

Harry Cooke's homestead was just south of his father's and was a short distance off the Edmonton Trail on a joining trail. A row of spruce trees, which he planted may still be seen today. The house has long since disappeared, though it was to that house he brought his bride, Zilpha McDermott, a member of

another pioneer Irish family. (see McDermott story). Harry and Zilpha were married in 1901 by the Rev. Robert Connell in St. Mark's Anglican Church. Four of their children, Dorothy, Ralph, Alberta and Harry were born in the old log house, (Dr. Henry George, the pioneer doctor, attended our Mother when the first two of us were born and Grandma Cooke looked after her then and always when any of us was born). Perry was born in Innisfail and Dr. Membry was the doctor in attendance.

Other members of Ralph and Annie Cooke's family were Tillie, Johnnie, Ivy and Babe. Tillie married Will Proctor, whose homestead was southeast of Innisfail. It was later sold to an English family, the Wills's, when the Proctors moved to Portland Oregon. There, their three children, Raymond, Trixie and Laurence were born.

Johnnie Cooke died tragically in a train accident, shortly after the family came west.

Ivy married John R. Moore, who came from Prince Edward Island. He was a butter maker and worked in the creamery. He distinguished himself by making a cheese which took a prize at the Chicago World Fair. The Moores lived just east of Innisfail for years. Their children were Harold, Allan, Bursleigh and Vivian.

Babe (Letitia) Cooke married Charlie Rummens and had two children, Jackie and Gladys.

The Ralph Cookes were very hospitable people, as most of the pioneers were, and many weary travellers stopped at their log house for rest and sustenance. Grandma Cooke was a very good practical nurse and was much in demand where there was illness.

About 1905 or 1906, Ralph Cooke built a frame house, which they called The Twin Gables — a good-sized house with a veranda on the front. The old log house became the pig house! They lived in their new house for a few years; then sold the place to a Scottish family, the Stuarts, who were wonderful neighbors to us. We remember many a good time we had with them. Members of the family who stayed around Innisfail were Robert, who married Miss Hodge, and Edna who married Percy Handford.

Grandpa Cooke built a very good home in Innisfail and at least two other houses. He was a very capable, practical man and was active in Poplar Grove and Innisfail affairs. He and Charles Bennett were the two in charge of building the Anglican Church of St. Mark's in 1892. The labour was all voluntary. Amongst others helping were Sam Twissell, William Champ, Fred Rogers and A.T. Wells.

Grandpa Cooke died in 1911, after being an invalid for a year because of rheumatism. His wife died two years later of a heart attack — only 63 years. They are buried in the Innisfail Cemetery.

In the fall of 1909, Harry Cooke sold his homestead and the family moved into Innisfail, and lived in one of the smaller houses built by R. Cooke. He bought out Lundy's Butcher Shop on Main Street. He ran the butcher shop for a while, then gave it up and went into the coal business. He built a house half



Ralph Cooke, Sr. with daughter Ivy.

a block east of Blair MacMillan's house — our home for years.

In 1915, Harry joined the 12th C.M.R.'s and went overseas. Later he was transferred to the 2nd C.M.R.'s and saw service in France for several years in the First World War. He was wounded twice. He came home in the spring in 1919 and was the first president of the Innisfail branch of the Great War Veterans' Association with Stewart Moore, Secretary.

We, of his family, received our education in the big brick school building, which was built in 1905. Early principals were Mr. Aylesworth, Mr. Norman and Mr. Main; all of them excellent.

Dorothy took Grade X11 in Red Deer, became a teacher, taught for several years. Then in 1924 she married Rex Tetley of Pine Lake, where they farmed for two years. They then moved to Innisfail, living there until 1938, when they moved to Red Deer. Their children are Doris, May, Stanley, Fern and Moira. They are all married and there are twenty-four grandchildren and one great-grandaughter.

Doris married George Handford, a grandson of the George E. Bryans, another pioneer family.

Ralph Cooke (Harry's son) became a teacher, then an accountant, married Edith Moore, nee Songhurst, had two children, Lance now in Ontario and Lynne (Leach) in Calgary. There are four grandchildren. Ralph joined the army in 1940 and remained in it until he died in 1952.

Alberta worked under Miss Marshall in the telephone office in Innisfail for two years, then married Malcolm MacKenzie-Grieve of the Gordon district. They live in Vancouver and have three children, Joan Kurbis, Elizabeth McMorris and Malcolm. There are seven grandchildren.

Harry died when only twenty-four.

Perry worked on his father's farm, married Ethel Richardson of Bowden (now deceased). There are four children — Harry in the R.C.A.F., Norma Levesconte of Lanigan, Sask., Alan of Vancouver and Margie at home. There are eleven grandchildren.

Perry joined the Calgary Highlanders in 1939 and saw service overseas in W.W.11 for five years. He and his youngest daughter, Margie, are the only Cookes now living in Innisfail.

Harry Cooke died in August, 1952 and Zilpha Cooke died in January, 1957. Both are buried in the Innisfail Cemetery.

Though many of the grandchildren, as well as the children of Ralph and Annie Cooke have passed on, they leave many great grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren.

Neighbors and friends of the family that we remember were the Gibson Munros who lived on the farm adjoining our land to the east. Mrs. Munro was a great friend of Grandma Cooke's and often walked over to our place and up to Ralph Cooke's and sometimes even into town. The Archers, Biltons, Bakers, Simpsons, Kitleys, Fosters, Playels, Lauders, Curries, Wests, Grasses, Aspinalls, Bouchers, Gilmores, Bob Smiths and Jack Smiths, Wilsons, McCallums, Grays, Lundys, Thornes and Mr. Oldham.



Harry Cooke Family L. to R.: Harry, Perry, Ralph, Dorothy, Harry Jr., Zilpha, Alberta.

We remember our grandparents talking about Napoleon Remillard and Content. Mr. Remillard and Mr. Sage lived west of town. Content, of course, was the disappointed man who started a town near the Content Bridge, thinking the railway was going through there. When it did not, the people moved away, but the bridge was named after him.

PERSONAL REMINISCENCES by Dorothy Tetley

I remember: —

Ralph and me getting up out of our beds on a bright moonlit night and sitting on a chest beneath the window watching the coyotes playing on the breaking south of the house. Of course we went to sleep every night to the weird eerie howling of the coyotes.

the nice black driving team we had, that was very skittish, and the exciting drives we had into town. I especially remember the day we met Mr. Lundy who was out for a drive in his car (the first one in Innisfail). Our horses went crazy and took off over the prairie (we having to hang on with might and main until Dad could get them under control). Mother also had the baby, Alberta, to hang on to. Poor Mr. Lundy stopped the car until we got safely back on our way.

going with Aunt Babe to the Playles, who were photographers, to pick up pictures taken of Grandpa Cooke's house.

we in the family, always believing that our Grandpa Cooke was the one who suggested the name of Innisfail (which is an ancient name for Ireland) to take the place of Poplar Grove. Our cousins, the Youngs, children of Carry Cooke, also grew up believing that.

watching from our front windows all the traffic on the Edmonton Trail — many riders, cowboys herding cattle south to Pat Burns in Calgary, Indians on the trail, prairie schooners of newcomers, always someone to watch.

our father, Harry Cooke, and the hired man starting out with all sorts of wet sacks and creamers of water to fight a prairie fire and coming back black as ink and tired out from fighting fire all day.

that Dave Arnell was the man who came every week to collect our cream and take it into town. At that time he lived down near Bowden with his parents.

parties of Indians going down past our place to visit the Indian cemetery which was in a corner of the field south of our place. This field was later fenced in and Blair MacMillan collected cattle there, which he had bought to be sent to Calgary for Pat Burns.

going to a wonderful picnic party at Twissells on Antler Hill, when they entertained many people of the town and district in 1908. The Twissells had a lovely place with lawns around the house and a large garden with many flowers as well as vegetables.

we could look across the Edmonton Trail to the hills west and on winter mornings see the "House with the Golden Windows", which was a big house that looked like a castle to us. This house was built by an Englishman named Gillingham whose wife was Japanese. The big old house burned down some years ago.

Innisfail was a very sporting town in the old days, and travellers always tried to arrange to stop there, rather than in other towns along the line.

the Innisfail Rifle Association was a very active one and men came from all Central Alberta to take part in their shoots. Incidentally Rex Tetley of Pine Lake, not long out from England, took part in a shoot in 1911. He won four events and still has his awards.

Grandpa Cooke took a trip back to Ireland about 1908 and brought a niece Bella Cooke, and Nellie Brown, a niece of Mrs. Gibson Munro out from the Old Country.

having to dash uptown to the drug store to get a copy of Bob Edward's Eye-Opener when it came out and our parents chuckling over it, especially its society notes.

Mr. Oldham, a pioneer lawyer of Innisfail who was superintendent of St. Marks Sunday school for years.

other members of my grade VIII class (1915) were Dorothy Rawlinson, Anna Smith, Evelyn Wilson, Tina Scott, Nina Flanagan, Emma Ferguson, Edith Shepherd, Elmer Marks, Lynnford Kemp and Frank West.

HUGH DONALD COSSEY

I was born in Norfolk, England and helped my Dad on his farm. In 1912, when I was seventeen years old,

I set out for Canada. I left the London docks on March 28, 1912 on an immigrant boat called the 'Ascania', and can remember being really seasick and home sick, as it was the first time away from my parents.

I arrived in Calgary via CPR on April 10th in a snow storm, and went to the Immigration Hall (where the Palliser Hotel is today). In Calgary, I met George Davidson, who farmed what is now the Hussar place, and so decided to come to Innisfail. I worked for Mr. Davidson, for Duncan and Hugh McDougall and Dave Sinclair. During the first World War, I served with the Canadian Forces, and while in England in 1918, met my future wife, Flossie Fowler (born at Dorchester, Dorset, England.) In 1920, I returned to Canada and worked in Edmonton; then in 1921 went back to England where Flossie and I were married. From about 1927 to 1947 we had a dairy business in Innisfail, selling milk around town for as low as 8 cents a quart. The Innisfail Creamery bought us out and instituted pasteurized milk. We sold our cows and in 1947 left for a seven months holiday to visit our relations in England, sailing on the 'Queen Elizabeth' and returning on the 'Queen Mary'.

I was a hog buyer for the Union Packing Co. for fourteen years. In 1961 we bought the old Innisfail Hospital and although we loved the old building, we found it was too neglected to fix up, so Archie Ritten and his gang dismantled it and built a four-suite modern apartment on the property which is known as 'Parkland Place'.

In 1968 we again returned to our old home in England for a three months visit, sailing from Vancouver on the 'Canberra' through the Panama Canal — which took a month on the ocean — and we returned on the 'Empress of Britain' to Montreal and via CPR to Innisfail, our home.

We have two children: Robert James Cossey, born Aug. 3, 1923, presently an electrician in Innisfail. He married Ida Slettee, from Grande Prairie, who worked in the local Post Office here. Edna, our daughter born Oct. 17, 1924, worked in the 'Province' office when Ben Huckell was the owner. She married Archie Ritten, a contractor, who originally hailed from Enchant, Alberta. They also live in Innisfail.

We well remember the Dave Sinclair family, on whose farm we resided for about 5 years; also Hugh MacDougall, Wm. Edgar, Geo. Calder, H.J. Scott, John Brown and families, G.W. West, Wm. & Hugh Hodge — who owned the Globe Store in town.



Dave Sinclair and Hugh Cossey, 1917.

THOMAS COULTHWAITE as told by his daughter, Elizabeth Baker

Thomas Coulthwaite was born in Yorkshire, England in 1843. His wife, Margaret Ann Machel, came from the County of Westmoreland. They resided in Liverpool for 18 years where they were 'cow keepers' and sold milk. After losing their herd with foot and mouth disease, they kept a general store on the waterfront. Following the death of his mother, they moved back to Yorkshire to help his father with the farm until he died in 1892. Thomas then decided to emigrate and sold his interest in the farm to his brother. Canada and Australia both were being touted as a land of opportunity. Hearing about the heat and the scourge of rabbits in Australia swung the balance in favour of Canada.

March 1893 found them on their way with their children: John (Jack), Mary Ann (Polly) Eleanor, Elizabeth, Mabel and Thomas. They sailed on "The Labrador" of the Allen Line. It carried cattle to Britain, then was made clean and comfortable to carry settlers back to Canada. The trip was scheduled to be a nine-day voyage but took much longer. The Atlantic was very stormy; many of the sailors were ill. They sighted icebergs — a never-to-be-forgotten spectacle.

Thomas was fond of and trained sheep dogs, and brought a Scotch collie and two border collies to Canada with him. These highly trained animals were confined to barrels on the deck and were desperately sea sick. The family said he spent more time with the dogs than he did with them. After arriving, two of these valuable animals died from poisoning set out for coyotes.

The trip across Canada by train was uncomfortable. There were no sleepers and the seats were bare boards. They stopped overnight a few times to get a good rest. The men got off at the stations to purchase food for their families. Thomas planned on settling at Winnipeg. However, the land there was all taken, so they headed west again. While on the train leaflets were distributed recommending Poplar Grove. The Coulthwaites stayed at a hotel there, which was operated by a Mr. Murphy. (He later sold out to Mr. Lundy. Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Peters worked at this hotel.)

Phil Boucher was the real estate agent at Poplar Grove, and drove the family around to look at available land. They selected land west of the town. However, after starting to build, they discovered that it was already taken. They then moved 12 miles east of Poplar Grove and homesteaded on a very rough quarter where the presence of strong springs which provided an abundant supply of water was the attraction. Someone had lived there previously as there was a sod shack and approximately seven acres broken. There were two families living between them and town — Billy Champ and McLeods.

The men built a log shack with a sod roof. This roof was made by placing poles as close together as possible and covering them with a generous amount of hay. Tough sods were cut from slough bottoms and

placed earth side down on the hay. A well-built roof could withstand a three-day rain. It was the children's duty to get up there and keep it patched with clay.

May arrived before they moved into the new home. The older members of the family went out first to prepare for the mother and younger children. They were accompanied by the Bradshaw family, whom they had met on the train. The move was made in a wagon drawn by a team of oxen. The weather was warm and about three miles east of Innisfail the oxen galloped into a slough and lay down. Everyone either waded or was carried ashore. Mr. McLeod, who was plowing nearby, came with a team of horses to pull them out. He had the misfortune of upsetting the wagon. Next day the contents of the boxes were spread out to dry on the grass.

Two months after arriving in Canada, Mrs. Coulthwaite gave birth to a son, Robert. Dr. Henry George from Poplar Grove came out to the farm for the event.

Soon after arriving at his homestead, Mr. Coulthwaite bought a large number of cattle and sheep, but he lost most of them the following winter due to poor advice concerning winter conditions. They kept sheep for only a few years. There were no fences and someone had to herd them all the time. Also, the coyotes were very bad.



Mrs. Margaret Ann Coulthwaite and her grand-daughter Eleanor Goldstrom.

The Coulthwaites carded and spun their own wool, then knitted it into petticoats, men's underwear, and socks. There was no market in Poplar Grove for wool, so they hauled it to Calgary with a wagon and oxen, and bartered for necessities.

The main crop was oats, both for grain and fodder for the cattle. A little wheat was grown for the chickens. The first crop was broadcast and harrowed in. It was harvested with a mower and tied by making bands with the straw. Lou Hall and Jack Wells flailed it out.

Mrs. Coulthwaite made candles from beef and mutton tallow. She made the moulds with cardboard, string, and a small circle of wood for the base.

Wild fruit was plentiful. In the summer the hillsides were blue with saskatoons. The trees were always short due to the frequency of prairie fires. In addition there were strawberries, raspberries, red and black currants, gooseberries, high bush cranberries, some blueberries, and dewberries grew in the damper spots. All berries are made into jam.

The mosquitoes were terrible. The men wore cheesecloth veils over their hats to protect their face and neck. Smudges were made to give the cattle a little relief.

The Bradshaws homesteaded on the same section. They did not stay long, so Mrs. Coulthwaite filed on their quarter later. Other people in the vicinity were: Mr. Craven and family (also on the same section), Mr. Wells, Sam and Leonard Hornett, Bechervais', Biltons, and Farrars. Soon after many others came: Songhursts, Tillier, Sparks, Archibalds, Langs, Halls, Whethams, Harry Howard, Moffats, Ellis', Blakes, Mert. and Frank Caldwell, Joe Reise, Horace Meeres, Dobsons, Darraghs, Ernest and Ed Hill, Archie and Malcolm Cameron, Goldstroms, Lees, Asa Ford, Herb Brush, Gordon and Philomen Reno, and Jack Thompson.

Jack Thompson owned a sow with seven piglets. After the piglets were weaned, he intended to fatten the sow for his winter's meat. Hearing a commotion in his pig pen, he looked out see a huge grizzly bear climbing over the fence with his sow. There were only three piglets left. A week later the remaining four crawled out from under the woodpile as flat as pancakes. The bear was doing so much damage that a hunt was called. The men came out from town and combed the woods between what is now Aberdeen and Clarendon. The bear was finally shot and killed by Steve Biswanger.

Two years after arriving in Canada, Mr. Coulthwaite became ill and suffered two further years with cancer before passing away in 1897, at the age of 54. He was buried in a cemetery in Innisfail. Later the bodies, with the exception of two Indians, were removed from this burial plot to the present cemetery. No record of the date has been kept, and there is no record of his grave. Mrs. Coulthwaite traded her farm to Oliver Langevin for real estate in Red Deer, and moved there in 1908. She resided there until 1936 when she went to the home of her daughter, Mrs. Arthur Baker. She died there in 1938 at the age of 84, and is buried in the present Innisfail cemetery.

Jack homesteaded on the same section as his Dad. He went overseas during the First World War with the 187th Battalion. Since he was much older than the other soldiers, his companions call him "Dad". He died in 1931 at the age of 60.

Tom became a carpenter and worked for many years in Red Deer and at the Olds Agricultural College. He died in Calgary in 1967 and is buried in Innisfail. Robert, always an invalid, died young. Mabel worked as a dressmaker for several years before marrying Lewis Chandler of Didsbury. Following his death she retired in Innisfail and died there in 1956. She left a bequest to the Innisfail Hospital which was used to furnish the waiting room. Meanwhile Polly had married Asa Ford; Eleanor married Charlie Bilton; and Elizabeth married Arthur Baker. Mrs. Baker, over 90 years of age now, lives in a Red Deer nursing home. Her eyesight and hearing are failing, but her mind is still keen.

COUSINS STORY by Rachel Cousins and Grace Scott:

Alfred Cousins came to Innisfail in 1910, purchasing the Becket farm. It was later that his brother, parents and sister joined him. Alfred and his father bought the Pratt farm and started a dairy business. There were 9 children in the family, but only 5 came west: Maude (m. Charlie Hall); Hazel (m. Alex Munro); Erie (m. Jake McDonald); Basil (m. Rachel Campbell); Alfred who never married and later lived in Vancouver.

Hazel was a waitress in the Alberta Hotel, after taking up dress-making. Erie was employed by G.W. West for some years.

A granddaughter and grandson, Grace and Stanley Cousins joined the family in 1916. Grace, just a wee girl, received all her education in Innisfail and in 1933 married Harry Scott and has farmed since in the Little Red Deer district (see Scott story). Stanley joined the Mounted Police and while stationed at Peace River married Ella Krinkie. They now reside in Vancouver.

In 1919, Alfred took over the farm and was in the process of building a new home when his mother passed away in 1921. In 1925 the Cousins farm was sold to Norman Hough, Alfred moving to B.C. where he bought a dairy farm. Grandad Cousins retired to Innisfail.

In 1922, Grandad Cousins bought a baby grand car. The road didn't seem wide enough for him and the baby grand. There were a few fence posts missing as well as some sapplings torn down when he turned into the lane pulling on the wheel and hollering "Whoa". It ended up that the front wheels were on top of a pile of lumber. He never did master that car. Grandad was road foreman with construction being done with horses and a scraper. He owned land where the Baptist Church now stands and the Crown Lumber Co now is in Innisfail.

In 1918 Basil bought a 1/4 section later known as Fogelvik Creek Farm. He erected a home, buildings and broke land. He grew registered seed grain and hereford cattle. He was a member of the Odd Fellows Lodge and an ardent curler. In 1948, due to ill health he sold the farm to Knut Magnusson. His intentions were to retire, but had a stroke on March 12, and passed away March 16th and is laid to rest in the Innisfail Cemetery.

by Velma and Lyle Hall

Grandpa Cousins was quite a character and was very fond of horses. He had a black team and lent them to funeral directors for funerals. He found out that the driver was racing the horses, so he put an end to lending them for these occasions. Time never meant much to Grandpa and his philosophy was "There's always tomorrow".

Grandma Cousins was a good manager and living on the farm, food was no problem. She was the only one we ever knew who could really "warm up potatoes".

Grandpa Cousins was the town milkman and nearly every home knew his smiling face that appeared every morning to greet them. This was from 1916-18.

Grandma passed away in 1920 and Grandpa in the 1940's. Both are interred in the Innisfail Cemetery.

SAMUEL & ANNIE LOUISE CUMMINS by Seth Cummins

Mr. Samuel Cummins Sr. and his wife Annie arrived in Innisfail from Ontario in April, 1899. They had three of their children with them. A daughter Alice, and sons James and Jack.

Samuel was born in Northern Ireland in 1852 and migrated to Canada when he was 16 years old. His wife was the former Annie Louise Fleming, born in New Brunswick in 1859. She later moved to Ontario where they were married. Samuel & the boys arrived in Innisfail in a freight car along with a team of horses, some cows and other items from their home in Ontario. Mrs. Cummins with her daughter arrived in Innisfail on a passenger train a few days ahead of the freight. As the train was pulling into Innisfail, it came to a stop before reaching the platform, and Mrs. Cummins looked out the window and saw a man lying beside the train decapitated (by the engine). This event didn't help her morale any and she was tired and homesick for Ontario. When they got off the train George E. Bryan, the station agent, met them. She told him she wanted to go back on the next train and wanted the freight car stopped down the line so they could all return to Ontario. Mr. Bryan took them to the back of the station where the Bryans' lived and gave them refreshments and told them of the good things this country had to offer . . . and succeeded in talking her into staying.

Samuel Cummins (Grandpa) hauled rock with his team of horses to build the Grahamston school working for the Dobsons. Grandpa, Jack & Jim cut logs and built a log house on the homestead. As their cattle herd increased they made their living from the milking of cows and selling the cream. They had a splendid garden and a smoke house where they cured the pork with willow wood.



Samuel and Annie Cummins

The children of Samuel & Annie were: Samuel Alexander (my Dad), Alice m. Joseph Cousins. They had two children: Myrtle (Mrs. L. Smith) of Vancouver and Gordon of Hanna: James took up a homestead near his fathers and he batched on his farm. He passed away in 1936 and is interred in the Innisfail Cemetery. Jack, homesteaded south of his Dads' and married Evelyn Wiltse and later moved to Vancouver where they resided until their deaths — He died in 1972 at the age of 89 years. They had three children: Evelyn (Mrs. Bill Hnatyzen), Dorothy (Mrs. F. Christie) and Stewart all of Vancouver.

Some of the first neighbors were Ernest Hansel, Otto Krause, the Hamilton Bros., Jacob & Fred Shafer, Ortweins, Jerry & Tom Concannon, John Lewis, Rosenbargo's and across the big spruce coulee was the Latimer family.

Grandpa had a pleasant surprise soon after his arrival in meeting Arthur Pollock in Innisfail whom he had known in Ontario and neither knew the other was here.

There was a particularly dry summer making the sloughs dry and able to cut hay in them. Jack & Jim had a big slough all cut and left the mower there. It started to rain and continued raining. When sometime later they went over to look at the hay all they could see of the mower in the water was the top of the upright cutting bar.

Recreation was visiting and being visited by neighbors. There were summer picnics and school concerts.

To get lumber for the building, Grandpa, Dad, Jack and Jim would go out to Raven in the winter and cut logs. They would cut enough extra to pay for the sawing of their lumber. They would then haul the logs to the mill and their lumber home (about 45 miles). They would get mine props and take them down to Ghost Pine to trade for coal. One time Dad brought a 70 ft. log on wagons for a flag pole.

Grandpa served on the May City school board. He was a member of the Independent Order of Foresters joining in 1894. Grandma served as midwife to some of the district families.

I remember the dark Syrian pedlar, Alex De Bore, who walked through the country for years with two suitcases on his back. He was a good honest man. He had a variety of goods from pant buttons to knives, towels, dresses and yardgoods. He liked to stay at Grandpas' over the week end. He finally made enough money to buy a team and light wagon. He was surely good to his team. I guess he knew what it was like to walk with a load.

Grandpa and Grandma worked very hard on their farm breaking land, building a frame house and two barns and other buildings. They had a sale of farm goods in 1916 and retired to Innisfail still keeping their farm where they could still be near the many friends they had met in the new country.

Samuel Cummins passed away Oct., 1923 and Annie Cummins died April, 1927. They are both buried in the Innisfail Cemetery.

SAMUEL ALEXANDER & SARAH CUMMINS by Seth Cummins

Mr. Samuel A. Cummins Jr. (my Dad) and his wife Sarah arrived in Innisfail in 1901 from Moosomin, Saskatchewan having come out there from Ontario in 1897.

Dad was born in Ontario in 1876 and mother was the former Sarah Appleyard and was born in Castleford, Yorkshire, England in 1874. They were married Feb. 13, 1900.

My grandparents were already here and my parents came here because of this. They built a sod shack on Grandpa's homestead. I was born there January, 1902. Mrs. Farrar was the mid-wife.

Dad took up a homestead two miles from his fathers' farm. To earn some money Dad got a job with the C.P.R. section in Innisfail for \$1. a day and he had to find his own board. The Red Deer river was flooding and it was thought the bridge would go out. Volunteers were asked to assist. Dad was one. The only light at the bridge was from coal oil lanterns. They had to watch for floating trees seeing they didn't jam, and if they did they were to pry them loose. Dad received \$5. for his efforts here and they did save the bridge.



Sam Cummins hauling cream to Innisfail in 1905.

Mother & Dad moved to Calgary where he was employed at the Calgary yards and his job was to polish and light the lights along the tracks at the station. It was here that he contacted typhoid fever and was put in the isolation hospital. It was winter time and if it hadn't been for the kindnesses of a neighbor, in cutting our wood, we would have frozen in the house.

They then returned to the homestead. He built a log shack with sod roof and dug a well. When it rained mother would put pails or dishes on the floor to catch the leaks off the roof. The bed would be placed in a dry spot in the room (if there was one).

Mr. Fred Wade milked a lot of cows and Dad got a job at his place. It was in 1905 the May City School was built (across the road from us). The janitor work was done by us for some time. Teachers boarded with mother and many of the pupils would come for drinking water.

Dad hauled cream to Innisfail around 1906. Jack Moore and L.M. McLean were the butter makers. He would have to leave about 3 in the morning to get to the creamery before the day got too warm. Dad hauled many carloads of hay to Innisfail and baled hay 17 miles to Billy Champs' corner with one team



Samuel Alex and Sarah Cummins

of horses. When he got orders for it, he would go and load it on the car. We used to sell it to A.E. Chute. Dad put up hay on shares with Tom & Matt Hamilton for two or three summers as well. He had a power baler and in 1913 purchased an International engine-powered baler, doing custom work with both machines.

Dad served on the May City school board and was sec/treas. for a number of years. He was foreman of the road work in the district for over ten years. He was the owner of the first automobile in the district a 1913 Ford Touring for which he paid \$708.00.

Mr. & Mrs. S.A. Cummins had 4 children: Seth (me), m. Vera Clifford in 1921 We retired last year (1972) and still reside on the farm 18 miles S.E. of Innisfail. Lula, m. Louis McCaw in 1929. She resides in Coeur-d-Alene, Idaho. Irene, m. Arthur Scott in 1938 and resides in Stettler; Laurence, m. Vivian Sucee in 1934 and they reside on Grandfathers' homestead.

I recall Henry Rufert in 1911 bought a big stationary engine & grain grinder. He did custom grinding. All the farmers came from miles around with their grain. By 1915 the steam thresher was starting to disappear. Dad and some of the neighbors went together to buy an outfit. There were to be 6 shares. Mr. Wm Flinn would run the separator and had 2 shares, Dad, Dan Boettger, Mr. Herrle and Mr. Thompson had 1 share each. It was a Rumely gas pull engine and weighed 5-1/2 tons. The separator weighed about the same. We threshed in different districts and in 1923 we threshed 57 days, 46 days stook threshing and 11 stack threshing.

There were a lot of skating parties and one time we were returning from skating with Uncle Jim (who was just learning to drive his Model T). When we arrived at the gate Uncle Jim was hollering "Whoa". It finally stopped, missed the gate but did go through the fence.

We worked and played with the Krause and Lewis families, much of the time. Sometimes at Krauses, there would be 20 boys and they would feed us all. We would enjoy lots of good music at Lewis', Leland on the fiddle, Lillian at the organ.

I attended May City School first and in 1915 went to High School in Innisfail. I stayed with Mr. & Mrs.

J.T. Rogers who were so very good to me. They were a fine family and had such a happy home. At school I sat at a double desk with Roy McArthur. Behind us were Frank West and Lyndford Kemp and ahead of us were Dorothy Rawlinson and Dorothy Cook. Mr. Main was the principal. One of his sayings when the noon gong rang was "The wheel will always give another turn after the gong rings."

The roads could build to quite a depth in winter with the snow and it was an unwritten law that the teams going to town had the right of way and the teams coming from town would have to pick a spot to turn out.

I remember the big steam engine Weidmans' had. It weighed 21 tons without the coal. They intended to use it for breaking land and when they tried it, it bogged down and it took a week to get it out. There were tracks across the prairie for years later where it had gone. It would have to detour as it would smash down culverts.

Mother and Dad had a successful and enjoyable life on their farm. Dad was still farming before he passed away Dec., 1945. Mother remained active and visited her daughters often. She passed away Oct. 1957. They are both interred in the Innisfail Cemetery.

JOHN MANN CURTICE by Mrs. Adam Johnston

John M. Curtice was born in Devon England in 1875. He came from Plymouth, England with his wife Mary (Husband) in 1910. He had always been a farmer and bought land in the Gordon district. They had come by train across Canada to Innisfail. His wife died following a goitre operation in 1919. It was a struggle to keep his family of three small girls (Priscilla, Mary and Hilda) together. Clearing most of his land with axe and muscle power he plowed the first furrows with horses. Cows were milked and cream sold to buy food and clothing driving ten miles to Innisfail with a team of horses. In 1921 he married Katie Machen from Harrogate, England. Neighboring families were Dunk, Sanborn, Robinson, MacKenzie-Grieve, Hamilton, Whitmore, Lochart, Taylor, Snow, and John Fry. He served as a trustee for the Gordon school in its early beginning. In those days there had to be five children in school to keep it open. The two eldest girls were fifth on the roll in their first year at school. Early teachers were Miss Scott (Mrs. Tester), Miss Center, Miss Campbell (Mrs. Tom Duncan), Miss Leslie Cosgrove, Miss Margaret Campbell. The Robinson family were the closest neighbors. Mr. Robinson made a good Santa Claus at Christmas concerts. His small son confided to us he knew who Santa was by his boots. The Dunk family lived across the river and had a daughter Marjorie. The Dunk family and ours often enjoyed picnics by the river. I remember too that Mr. Lockhart took his turn as Santa and was very witty. When the Locharts arrived their eight children doubled the number on the school roll. Mrs. Taylor was an accomplished pianist and accompanied her husbands' singing at concerts. The districts' first settlers were mostly from England and their spiritual needs were taken care of by the

Anglican Church. Rev. John Orton conducted monthly services in the school house. He owned one of the first cars, but when roads were muddy or snow blocked he rode a beautiful bay horse, and I remember his spurs showing beneath his long, white clerical robe as he preached his sermon. He was a true pioneer and humanitarian. Many stories could be written of his kind deeds and acts of mercy to those in need.

John Curtice died in January 1960 at the age of 85. His wife Katie died in February 1954. Both are buried in the Innisfail Cemetery. His children were: Priscilla May (Mrs. George Malcolm), who died in 1939, Mary (Mrs. Adam Johnston) of Innisfail, Hilda Charlotte (Mrs. John Artamenko) of Fort St. John, B.C. and Frank Machen Curtice Innisfail.

DAINES HISTORY by Snowden & Ethel Daines

On February 13, 1911 Jane Elizabeth Rooke Daines of Yorkshire, England wrote a letter to her Uncle Joseph Smith in Innisfail, Alberta regarding the future of young men in Canada. His reply was "There is every opportunity". They sailed on May 13th, and arrived in Innisfail, June 13th, 1911. They were known on the boat as the people with the large family. There was James Edward age 11, Alick Rooke, age 9, Thirza Annie Isobel age 7, Basil William age 5, Snowden Appelby age 3, and the twins Romulous Jessie George and Remus Robert Reginal 2 years of age. Their father, William Edward Daines was a master blacksmith in Norfolk at the time of their departure.

Mrs. Daines took ill on the boat and the children all got the measles. Mrs. Daines was put in hospital for five weeks in Quebec while her husband and the children came on alone to Penhold to be met by their Uncle, Joe Smith. He took them all home with him to the ranch. Aunt Maggie welcomed them with open arms and mothered them until their own Mother arrived. Mrs. Daines immediately fell in love with the surrounding country. Seeing a magpie outside her bedroom window on the first morning of arrival, called to her Aunt "Oh. Auntie, there's a very pretty bird outside with the most beautiful tail feathers". Auntie replied it was only a magpie.

Mr. Daines seeing what he believed to be a lovely cat, and being very fond of cats, as the English are, reached out to pet it and found out all he needed to know about skunks. Bill went out into the country to shoe horses, lots of times the twins went along. They particularly remember being asked into dinner on one occasion and were served muskrat stew.

The War was over and Jim miraculously returned home. Cecil Parker recalls one incident in Pachendale, Jim serving in the advance dressing station had dressed the wound in his side. Getting weaker from the loss of blood, and still bleeding, Jim helped him under heavy artillery fire and shelling of the road, to the horse ambulance. The mud was so deep the roads had to be built up, sand bags were piled up for trenches.

Jim started a business upon his return, buying a livery barn from Frank Anderson. Jack Varty was



Mr. and Mrs. William Daines

Jim's main driver with Snowdon and Romie driving on weekends, often taking the doctors on their calls in the country. Romie recalls driving Dr. Wagner out on a maternity case. The husband told Romie to take the horses to the barn and to stay with them, but Dr. Wagner would hear none of this and told him to come to the house. The house had only one room. The Doctor and his patient were in one corner Romie sat in another and saw nothing until he heard a baby cry. Coming home it was bitterly cold, they pulled the buffalo robe high up over them and let the horses find their way back to town.

Mrs. Daines by now had turned her home into a nursing home. Dr. Dorsey sent his patients there. She ran the home successfully for several years.

Jim sold the Livery barn and bought a quarter section of land from the S.S.B. Taking some of his horses with him he started a business hauling gravel for different developments around the community. On the completion of the job he was on, the last load and the last shovelful, an overhanging piece of frozen gravel let go, killing him instantly, while his brother Remie looked helplessly on. His Mother, who was visiting her son in California (having been down for her daughters' wedding) was called home. She never forgot the colored porter on the train kindly saying to her "The Good Lord didn't mean us to be too happy in this world". Rev. John Orton officiated at the service in the Anglican Church. Jim is interred in the Innisfail Cemetery he died in 1929 at the age of 29 years.

That spring, Snowdon accompanied by his Mother went to carry out the plans that had been made. She found comfort in being there on the land her son had so loved. After the work was done in the fall they returned to town for the winter. Then came the day when they rented Uncle Joe Smith's land at the "Spruces" to run cattle on and to live the year around on. Mr. Daines coming out on weekends and holidays, as he was still working in the blacksmith shop with Remie and Romie, and playing checkers with his cronies. Snowdon was still farming Jim's quarter section and forever this land will remain as long as Daines' farm the land. They lived at the Spruces for twelve years, during that time Snowden married Ethel Niblock and Jim and Jack were born. There the 2A highway was built, Snowdon bought the

Harry Cooke farm where they reside today and where five more sons were born to them.

Alick and Thirza both married and were living in California. Alick worked for Bell telephone for twenty-five years and was pensioned off. He later started a lamp shop in Santa Barbara and is now retired. Alick belongs to the Masonic Lodge and the Shriners. He has one daughter, Doreen, living in Calgary. Thirzas' husband, Ivan McAllan, was a wine inspector in Napa, California. They have one daughter, Zoe, living in Mass. Basil and Romie were doing a lot of boxing in these years each winning several medals and championships. Basil married and moved to B.C. where he worked for Boulty's Ltd. for twelve years and later started a ski lodge on Grouse Mountain. With a pack weighing fifty to sixty pounds on his back, Basil cleared his way up the Mountain with an axe. Romie helped him on this undertaking. Grouse Mountain is now one of the leading ski resorts in Canada. In World War II, Basil joined the armed forces and was stationed in Ontario. After the war he opened a steam bath and did Physiotherapy in Barrie, Ontario with his wife Gloria who helped him. They had three children: Bill Marlene and Jane.

In 1939 Romie joined the Royal Canadian Engineers and served overseas for five and one-half years. Returning home, Romie and Remie took over their Dads' Blacksmith shop, which is still in operation by them (1973). Romie married Ethel Carr and they have one daughter Donna (Mrs. Terry Dodd). Remie married Irene Donner and they have two daughters: Penny (Mrs. Allan Archibald) and Ronnie (Mrs. Ron Bailey).

Bill Daines passed away at his original home in Innisfail at the age of 83 years. Mrs. Daines nursed him to the end. First Thirza, then Basil predeceased their Mother. Thirza and later Ivan gave their bodies to science. Basil is buried in Barrie, Ontario. Mrs. Daines by now was living in the Autumn Glen Lodge and celebrated her 89th birthday on January 9th, 1966 and died suddenly, January 13, 1966. This life which had so many meaningful happenings on the 13th, as well as her twins' birthday, was laid to rest in the family plot beside her husband and son Jim.

During their life time in Alberta, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Daines never went back to England nor ever looked back. They were so content in this country. The Snowden and Ethel Daines family:

James W. married Marilyn Lewis and they have four sons: John Snowden married Audrey Severtsen and they have three children: Norman Lewis married Hazel Malinkowski and they have two children: Glen Roger married Donna Thompson and they have one daughter: Ivan Cedric married Kay Hayes and they have one son: Franklin Roland married Shirley Dial and they have two daughters. Danny is still attending school in Innisfail.

S.A. Daines entered the business of auctioneer. This has grown into a family business. Ivan, a professional Bronc Rider, has participated in rodeos all over America. Jack, an auctioneer and rodeo an-

nouncer is also manager of the Innisfail Auction Market. Jim and Norman are farm managers whereas Franklin, Glen and Ivan are in the Western Wear Stores at Caroline and Red Deer.

“SANDY” DALLAS by Mrs. Margaret E. Wiley

Alexander “Sandy” Dallas was born in Gartly, Aberdeenshire, Scotland Sept. 13, 1867. He was a cattle buyer in Scotland but came to Canada with his brother Tom arriving in 1904 planning on farming. He farmed close to Innisfail and was an auctioneer as a side line. He served in the Canadian Army during the first World War, then returned to Innisfail. He clerked in the G.W. West & Son General Store and was associated with L.M. MacLean in the farm machinery and real estate - insurance business.

He married Margaret Alice McLean from Nairn, Scotland, in 1906. Sandy Dallas died on May 26, 1951 and is buried in Queen's Park Cemetery in Calgary. Children: Edna Jean Dallas, deceased July 1927; Margaret E. m. Arthur O. Wiley, Regina, 1 girl Maureen; Norma M.M. Dallas, Calgary.

DARGIE STORY

Mr. and Mrs. Alex Dargie came from Harrisburg, Ontario where all their children had been born. The children were: Pricilla (Mrs. Ed Dodd) of Innisfail; Helen (Mrs. Joe Hora) of Vancouver; Lydia (Mrs. William Craig) of Bowden; Ada (Mrs. Ernest Dodd) of Innisfail and Beatrice (Mrs. Stan Forbes) of Edmonton.

They arrived in 1893 at the station in Innisfail. They then went out to a log shack that had a sod roof. It rained inside the house four days after the rain had stopped outside. This was east of Mrs. Bowes. The homestead was a quarter and he paid \$10 for it.

Out of Bowden, he again built a log home, but this time he put a good roof on it. Mr. Dargie had been on the railroad in Ontario and knew nothing about farming. The family made their own fun. Sunday School was each Sunday and it was held at the Dargie home. Everyone would come from near and far. The children went to the Lone Pine school on horseback — sometimes three to a horse, and they would pick up other children on the way. There were four miles to cover going to school and this would continue even though the weather was 25 - 30° below. Mrs. Dargie would always be watching for the children to return from school looking from the window.

Alex Dargie landed here in a box car with his brother Andrew. Some furniture, two pacing horses, one cow and a calf — and very little cash came too. Mrs. Dargie had to come along on the train with five wee girls. They were met by Mr. Dargie with a driving team and buggy. They got as far as where the overpass is now, and got stuck in a mud hole. Mr. Dargie took one by one and set them on a rail fence until he got the team and buggy out. It seemed everywhere they went they got stuck because of the light driving horses they had.

In those early days nothing was thought of having to haul water for the house in a barrel one and a half miles.

JAMES DARRAGH by Mrs. Claud Dancey

Born: Brent, Ontario, June 3, 1879.

Died: December 25, 1959; buried in the Innisfail Cemetery.

James Darragh was born in Ontario and moved to Brandon, Manitoba as a small boy. He came to the Innisfail district in 1902, bought a quarter of land in the Westlyn district; when he married Mabel Peters in 1905 they homesteaded the quarter that they lived on until 1922. It was impossible to get water on this quarter; they hauled water for 17 years. In 1948 they moved to Calgary, selling their 3/4 of land and James Darragh passed away at his home in Calgary.

James and Mabel's children were all born in the little house on their homestead. Mrs. Stevenson was midwife for the first three and Mrs. Evans for the last one.

Allan Edward, born May 18, 1907.

Mabel Christina, born October 11, 1909.

Mary Emmiline, born April 19, 1913.

Ethyl Emma Georgia, born June 28, 1919.

The children obtained their education at Mount Pleasant and Glenellen schools. The first school teacher at Mount Pleasant was Mr. Carter. The first teacher that I had was Miss Haddagin. I remember also Miss McKendrick, Mrs. Whitney Stevenson and Mr. Jim Bailey at Glenellen. We had 3-1/2 miles to go to school and often would go in the buggy and pick up other children on the way. My mother never knew if we were coming home with broken legs, arms, or not when we used 'Daisy'; if you were lucky enough to get her started, she wouldn't stop; I remember once when we got to the corner to pick up the Walton children they had to jump on while we were still going.

Dad was considered a very good horseman; he had a pair of hackneys that could make the trip to town in one hour when someone was in need of the doctor. He and Allan were often called by neighbors to help treat a sick horse.

My folks were the first ones in the district to have a telephone and we children often took messages to neighbors; then later we had a neighborhood line on the fence lines and they could phone us on that and we would phone to town on the other phone.

Both my mother and father were very musical and they played for many dances. I have Dad's violin which was made in Switzerland in 1813.

Some neighbors I remember were: Lincolns, Gino, Parchers, Weirs, Popes, Edwards, Waltons, Evans, Hornets, and others.

Children of James and Mabel Darragh:

Allan Edward Darragh married Agnes Edna Mitchell on October 10, 1929. They lived in the district; then moved to Calgary and to Drayton Valley in 1953. Allan passed away in 1968 and is buried at Innisfail. 5 children:

Agnes May — m. Gordon May; 6 children; Linda m. Robert Mattice; Donna m. Brian Baumann; 4 boys at home.

Lee Edward — m. Helen Russel; live at Drayton Valley; 6 boys: David, Delbert, Pat, Kevin, Kenny, Merle.

Murray Alden — m. Francis Thompson; 4 children.

Jim — m. Yvonne Gowing; live in Calgary; 2 children: Darren & Denise.

Kay Mabel — m. Poirier; lives in Calgary; 3 children: Ronald, Dale, Melanie.

Mabel Christina Darragh married Richard Williams on Sept. 2, 1937; 5 children:

Louella — m. Keith Blakeney; 2 children; live at Goose Bay, Labrador. Steven, Brenda.

Doris — m. Stan Marko; 3 children: Christopher, Ricky, Nancy; live at Viking.

Betty — m. Vic. Callahan; 1 son; live at Wainwright.

Jim — m. Joyce; 2 children; live at Calgary.

Bobby — m. Claudia; 1 son; live at Fox Creek.

Mary Emmiline Darragh married Claude Dancey in 1940; live in Calgary; they had one daughter, Judy Ann, who married Ralph Colpitts; and one son, Bradley.

Ethel Emma Georgia Darragh married Jack Mallison. They lived on the Jack Nolan place, then moved to Calgary. Jack passed away and Ethel now lives at the Coast. They had two daughters: Cherie — m. Roy Stuart; 3 sons: Kevin, Brent, Jody; live at Calgary. Carol — m. Albert Hildebrant; 4 children: John, Gary, Cheryl and Michele; live in Australia.

THE DAVIDSON HISTORY by Marie Hopkins, (granddaughter.)

Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Davidson came from Cochrane, Alberta to the Little Red Deer District, with their four month old daughter in May, 1890, to homestead where George Edgar now lives.

Mr. Alexander Davidson was born in Buckey Banfshire, Scotland in 1864 and came to Canada in 1878 to live at Midway, Ontario. In 1888 he married Elizabeth Scott who was born in Bruce County, Ontario in 1867. In 1889 they came west to farm at Cochrane, Alberta, before homesteading in the L.R.D. district in 1890.

They built their own log building, milked cows, sold milk and cream, made butter and bread, raised chickens and turkeys, made soap and sewed their own clothes. It was a new and undeveloped district with no railroad service, irregular and scanty mail service and they were dependent upon themselves for a means of existence.

The main entertainment in the early days was lawn bowling, hardball, football, curling on the lakes, skating and horse back riding. House parties card games and school house dances made a sociable community.

Alexander and Elizabeth Davidson had nine children:

Mary, b. Nov. 28, 1889 — dec Jan. 9, 1971. She married Menira Leach, a carpenter from Oregon in 1901. He died in 1956. They had six children (see Leach Story).



Alexander and Elizabeth Davidson Family — taken about 1910. Back row: Alexander, Elizabeth, Arch, Bell, Alex. Front row: Elizabeth, Jim, John.

Isabel, b. April 4, 1892, died Dec. 8, 1918. She married Frank Anderson from Nebraska. He died in January, 1955. They had four boys: Charlie (dec, 1962), Alfred who was killed in action in 1944 in W.W.II, Cedric of Edmonton who is married with a family of 6: Douglas of Calgary who married Anna Perret.

Archibald, b., June 1, 1894. He married Gladys Kent who came from Delhi, Ontario. They farmed in the Little Red Deer District. Gladys died in 1945 at the age of 50 years. Their family consisted of four children: Jean (Mrs. Howard Jensen) of Raven They have three children: Ronald with the R.C.M.P. at New Westminister. He married Cal Hancock.: David, a Co-op salesman of Red Deer who married Connie McCall from Calgary: Wendy a graduate nurse who married Bob Legelin of New Westminister. Gordon (killed in 1960) married Melba Dial. They have 4 sons: Bernard, Lane, Russel and Alan. Russell of Innisfail married Jean Ball. They have 7 children: Carol (Mrs. Jim Bosch), Linda (Mrs. Gilbert Nielson), Donald who married Jessie Metzger, Judy, Mary (Mrs. Jack Kennedy), Betty and Kevin. Marie Davidson married Jim Hopkins, owners of Central Cleaners and Holiday Ranch in Innisfail. They have three children, Yvonne (Mrs. Denis Kennedy) of Medicine Hat, Kent (a city policeman) in Calgary and Beverly at home.

Alexander of Bowden, born March 26, 1896 — died Jan. 13, 1972). He married Greta Culler of Warner, Alta. They have 4 children: Phyllis (Mrs. Bob Mullen) of Millet. They have 7 children. Leonard who married Joan Handford of Innisfail, resides in Bowden. They have 2 sons.; Raymond who married Mary Hinkleman and reside in Didsbury. They have three children. Donna (Mrs. E.S. (Slim) Adair of Bowden reside in Calgary. They have 2 children.

Henry, born Nov. 12, 1897 — died August 30, 1898.

George, born June 18, 1900 — died July 20, 1913

Elizabeth, born Sept. 27, 1901. She married Jack Smith who died at New Westminister. They had nine children: June (Mrs. Carl Barber), Jack, Aubrey, Faye (Mrs. Clifford Sepka), Barbara (Mrs. Jim Usselman), Charles, Douglas, Vernon, Kenneth.

John has been married twice (first to Ruby Lockhart). They have 3 children Mildred, Robert and Darlene.

Jim was born May 25, 1908. Married Blanche January of Corvallis, Oregon. Jim has just retired in May, 1973 from over 35 years as chief sheep herd-

smen at the University of Laramie, Wyoming. They have 2 sons: Jim who married Yvonne Thomas. They live in Alliance Nebraska with their two children Steven and Shari. Tom who married Ann Graham and live in La Grange Park, Illinois with their two children Gary and Dodi. Both Jim and Tom are graduates from the University of Wyoming.

Alexander Davidson Sr. died in 1932 and Elizabeth Davidson died in 1919. They are both laid to rest in the Innisfail Cemetery.

Three grandsons of Alexander and Elizabeth Davidson were in the services. Alfred Anderson, Gordon Davidson and Jim Davidson Jr.

Those were the days steers were taught to drive to work in the fields. On a cold winter night you could hear a wagon grinding in the snow miles away indicating more severe weather than we have today.

Archibald Davidson my father, and my mother the former Gladys Kent were married in November 1917. Gladys and her sister Ila came to Innisfail from Delhi, Ontario to live with their brother, Harry and their father James Geddes Kent who came west the previous year to homestead in the Little Red Deer District. One sister, Marjorie, stayed in the east with her grandparents. Harry Kent married Ella Lechman, also from Delhi, Ontario. They farmed in the Little Red Deer district for many years, operated a creamery, and later moving to Bowden, Alberta. In Lethbridge he was in the John Deer business, in Regina Sask. he was in the hail adjusting business. They retired to Port Dover, Ontario and then to Victoria, B.C. Mr. and Mrs. Kent were fond of travelling, the most outstanding trip being the six month world cruise they took the year of their 50th Wedding anniversary. Harry Kent passed on in December of 1971.

ARTHUR DAW STORY by Mrs. A.W. (Rose) Smith

Mr. Daw came to Canada from Cleckheaton, Yorkshire, England in 1902. He spent a short time in Montreal and Quebec City before arriving in Campbellford, Ontario where he met and married Mary Elizabeth Bakes in March 1905. They settled in Gleichen, Alberta before moving to Innisfail. Mr. Daw was born in Cleckheaton in 1880.

He came to Canada at the age of 22 yrs to seek a new life in a new land. He came with two brothers.

He homesteaded in the Gleichen District and built many homes there, many of which are standing today. He also built canals for the C.P.R. in Gleichen. In 1910 he moved to Innisfail where he managed the beverage room in the Alberta Hotel. "Doc" Holmes (a veterinarian) had bought the Alberta Hotel from Baker & Stitt. When Doc Holmes sold the Alberta Hotel to Mr. & Mrs. Van Arsdale, Holmes went into the manufacturing of "Worcestershire" sauce here in Innisfail.

Mr. Daw continued at the Hotel until it burnt down. When it burnt down it was owned by Mr. & Mrs. Pete Peterson. Next, Mr. Daw went into the draying business until 1937 when he was employed by the Alberta Gov't as Sheriffs' Bailiff. Following

this Mr. Daw worked as a commissionaire at the Flying Training School at the Bowden Airport until its' closure. In 1944 he retired to Lethbridge where his son Alfred, an engineer with the C.P.R. and his two youngest daughters (Elsie and Ethel) were living.

In 1912 Mr. Daw made a trip to England to visit his family and was to return home to Canada on the ill-fated Titanic. A change in plans delayed his departure from England and spared him from being involved in a great disaster.

Their first child and only son, Charles Alfred Daw was born in Gleichen in 1906. On two occasions Mrs. Daw returned to her home in Campbellford, Ont. to give birth to her next oldest children — Rose (Mrs. Smith), and Ruth (Mrs. Harry Kirkham) both of Innisfail. Two daughters were born in Innisfail — Ethel (Mrs. Harold Jack) of Lethbridge and Elsie (Mrs. Vern Harris) of Chatham, Ontario. Their son Alfred was killed in a highway accident July 18, 1960 in Lethbridge.

Mr. Daw enlisted in the 187 battalion in W.W.I. He was very interested in sports of all kinds with a keen interest in boxing. He trained boxers in Innisfail including Basil and Romie Daines among others.



Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Daw, center front; Elsie holding Marilyn; Ethyl and Rose.

Arthur Daw passed away in Lethbridge in 1954 and Mrs. Mary Daw in 1969 at Lethbridge.

All the family attended school in Innisfail with the exception of me (Rose) who stayed with my grandmother in Ontario and went to school there for a short time. Some of those I attended school with in Innisfail were: Rebecca Powell, Olive Barker, Bertha Hewitt, Snowden Daines, Harry Cooke, Archie Murgatroyd, Velma Hall and Stan Holmes. I recall when we lived next door to the Bakeshop and close by lived Wests' who had a parrot and the language of the parrot left much to be desired at times. Tom Kirkhams lived near and Rev. Orton across the street. I remember hearing that everyone liked Rev. John, even tho' he smoked they knew he would still get to heaven. He always helped those in need in the district. Dad built the Bauman House and the one next door. At the time of building it was all bush and we picked saskatoons right there. We used to skate on the Moore's Slough and Laurie Jenson was the one who taught so many how to skate. Mother used to

love Rogers Park. Mr. Rogers would take all the children to the Saturday afternoon shows and was so kind to all. Fumertons had shetland ponies and little carts and we used to enjoy going for rides there. Dad knew Charlie Hall so well and always enjoyed talking with him and so many others.

I married Arthur Smith in 1926. He was farming in the Nesbit district at the time coming here from Bombay India due to illness. He had been born in Scotland and had been a Vimy Veteran. We had a family of 6: Lorraine (Mrs. McArthur), Shirley (Mrs. Rinehart), Ronald, Yvonne (Mrs. Lemke), Marilyn (Mrs. Ash) and Gary. Arthur Smith was the administrator at the hospital here in Innisfail from 1948 to 1968. I worked with him there for 9 years. He retired and passed away after a lengthy illness in Feb. 1973. I recall how much admiration he had for Mr. Savage and J. Wilson Jr. as chairmen for the hospital board.

THE JOE AND ALICE deLONG STORY by Dorothea Laidler

My father, Joe deLong, was born at Waterdown, Ontario in 1872. At the turn of the century, he decided to come West to Alberta as he had heard of the many opportunities here. He came by train to Calgary then decided to go North to Poplar Grove, now Innisfail. He had to travel there by horse and wagon as the railroad wasn't built north of Calgary. When he arrived there he got a job working on a farm. Later he was interested in the retail store business and started working as a clerk for Mr. G.W. West, a well known store owner. He later worked for Mr. Hodge & Sons, who were in the store business also. It was then he decided to go into business for himself and operated a grocery store in the Whitcomb building. Later, he bought the property next to the pool hall and moved his store there. In 1937 he decided to retire to Victoria, B.C. He passed away in the year of 1944 at the age of 72.

He married my mother Alice Dodd, in the year 1896. She was born at Kilbride, Ontario in 1879. She was the eldest daughter of John and Margaret Dodd. She passed away in Victoria in 1954 at the age of 75.

They had seven children: Ethel (Kit) the eldest married Sandy Watt and is residing in Victoria. He passed away in December, 1972. They had two sons. Jack (Shorty) was an athlete playing baseball and hockey. He married Bess Forster and they had one daughter. He passed away in Calgary in 1963. Ruth married Archie Demers and they reside in Victoria. They have one daughter. Harry never married and also lives in Victoria. Iris passed away at the age of four years and Tom in infancy. They are buried in the Innisfail Cemetery. I, Dorothea, married Jack Laidler. He is a nephew of James Laidler who was town secretary of Innisfail for a number of years. We have three sons and one daughter and we live in Red Deer.

We were all born in Innisfail and attended school there. We were neighbors of the Wests, Kirkhams, Whites, Marks and good friends of the Smith family, Lennox's, Kemps and Percy's.

One of the highlights of our family was when Dad bought a Model T. Ford car. We would go for drives in the country as he was interested in seeing where the farmers lived. Previous to having the car, on Sunday afternoons we would walk out to Mud Lake, later called Hazelwood Lake and out by Sages' farm in the sand hills. Mr. Sage had a number of dogs and he always brought them to town with him. We usually had some horses and I can remember my Mother driving the horse and buggy and taking my brother Jack in the country to hunt rabbits with his 22 rifle.

We were a happy family and enjoyed living in Innisfail.

E.H. DENNIS by Robert Donner

E.H. Dennis was born in Runcorn, Cheshire, England in 1874. He married Mary Grace Donner about 1897. At this time Ernest was working in a chemical works in Norwich and Grace was teaching school. Mr. & Mrs. Dennis came to Canada and Innisfail in early 1913. They purchased the N.E. 1/4 Sec 8 Twp 35 Rg 28 W4 from the Hudson Bay Company and later bought the portion of section 17 that lies between the railway and the old &C & E trail from Dick Kremer.

When they arrived here they stayed with Mrs. Dennis' brother, R.H. Donner until they had a home built. In less than two weeks from their arrival they were milking cows and delivering milk to Innisfail. This business was continued for 30 years. During much of this time they were the major suppliers of milk to the town of Innisfail — serving the hospital, hotel and most of the cafes as well as the general public. Delivery was made by team and various wagons and sleighs. Many were the tales told about Dennis' runaway teams. Mr. & Mrs. Dennis had one of the early cars in the district — a Gray — Dort, and later a succession of Buicks.

They were very good friends of Ernest "Jack" Dodd and Dr. "Hank" Wagner. These two men along with Ernest Dennis and Jack Bugbee, as guide, went



Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Dennis and Mrs. Donner (Mrs. Dennis' mother).

on hunting trips into the West county. These trips were the subject of many stories — some true and undoubtedly some fiction.

Mrs. Dennis passed away in 1938 and is buried in the Innisfail cemetery. Ernest carried on a few more years, finally rented his farm to Mr. & Mrs. Bob Quigg in 1945. He then moved into Innisfail where he resided until his passing in 1954. He too is buried in the Innisfail cemetery.

Their only family, an adopted daughter, Sarah Ann "McKlosky" married Warren R. Donner in 1950 and lives in Woodburn, Oregon. They have one son Dennis.

Mr. & Mrs. Bob Quigg and son Charles rented the farm until Ernest's death then purchased the home quarter, operating that until 1961. Bob Quigg died in 1950, Mrs. Quigg in 1963. Charles is married and lives in Innisfail.

THE DIAL STORY by Hal Dial and Helen Mullen

Our grandfather, Russell Filando Dial, born near Council Bluffs, Iowa Oct. 16, 1864, came here from North Dakota in July 1906 to look for a homestead. He first settled on the former "Recard" place in the Raven district; then in 1912 he and his family moved to a homestead two miles east and one mile north of Caroline. The family lived there until Russ Dial's death in 1922. Russ often had to work out in sawmills and logging camps to get enough money to live and operate his farm. Many times there was no meat on the table for a meal. His wife, Sarah, once took an old shot gun to shoot some prairie chickens. She got one chicken, but also knocked out a front tooth.

Russ Dial married Sarah Jerusha Branson around 1874; they had three sons and one daughter — Raymond Richard, Glen, Arthur, and Lulu. Grandmother Dial was always a very warm and hospitable woman. Her home was open to everyone. After her husband died, she was housekeeper for G.W. West until she remarried James Leask of Caroline, whom we all loved. She later became blind and lived in Innisfail until her passing.

RAYMOND RICHARD DIAL

Ray Dial, our father, homesteaded two miles east of Caroline in 1914. He married Mabel May Armstrong in early 1915. In 1918 the family moved to Innisfail and Ray went water well drilling which he did for 25 years. He was also one of the few who could run a steam engine and worked several falls running a steam thresher on the Indian Reserve at Gleichen. During the "hungry thirties" money was really scarce, but the Ray Dial family had every animal you could get, radio, frig, etc. all of which was payment for drilling water wells.

Their first child, Helen Fay, was born Nov. 27, 1915 at the Bill Daines' home in Innisfail. Mrs. Daines assisted Dr. Turner. There was no hospital until a year or two later. Helen grew up and went to school in Innisfail, and was always interested in sports. She captured one silver and one bronze medal

in the Rosebud Athletic School Track Meet (competitors from Calgary and Innisfail). Helen is married to Howard Mullen; they have resided in Red Deer since 1949. They have three sons: Larry, 34, works for Neon Products of Canada in Edmonton; Terry, 26, for Big Iron Drilling, Edmonton; Bob, 19, a second year graduate of Red Deer College. Helen is a Past Matron of O.E.S. Red Deer and is presently on the board of directors for the CO-op Stores, Red Deer. Her husband, Howard, was honored in May as Sportsman of the year for his 22 years of service with Minor hockey.

Harold Raymond Dial was born Feb. 11, 1918 in Innisfail Hospital. He is now a successful rancher 4 miles west of Spruceview. He married Marion McDonald of Spruceview in 1939. They have 1-1/2 sections of land and 400 cattle.

Robert (Bob) Russell Dial was born Aug. 17, 1919 and worked with his father at Water Well drilling. In 1939 he volunteered and joined the R.C.A.F. After the war, he married Amy Klatt. They have 2 sons and 1 daughter: Robbie is manager of Daines Western Wear at Caroline; Lenny is working with his Dad on a quarter section west of Caroline, where they are putting in a campground and fishing lodge; Shirley Fay is married to Franklin Daines, lives in Innisfail and have two daughters, Dixie and Stacey.

William Richard Dial was born March 25, 1921. He went through High School in Innisfail served in the R.C.A.F. overseas. After the war, he married Audrey Graham of Innisfail. They have three children: Pat, Laurie, and Karen. They now reside in Smithers, B.C. where Richard has a Canadian Propane agency.

Melba Sarah Dial was born Sept. 25, 1922. She served in World War II with the R.C.A.F. After the war, she married Gordon Davidson of Innisfail. They have four boys: Bernie, Lane, Rusty, and Alan. Gordon was killed in an accident in the early 1950's and Melba now resides in Calgary.

A son, James Leonard was born in April 1924 and died at one year of age.

The last child to be born in the Ray Dial family was Alan Lane Dial Sept. 27, 1926. He grew up in Innisfail and helped his father with the well drilling. He married Joyce Brooks of the Cottonwood district, and they lived west of Sylvan Lake. They had six children. Lane was killed in 1966 in a car accident.

Mrs. Ray Dial died in Dec. 1945. Mr. Ray Dial remarried a few years later to Elsie Wear of Wainwright. They had one daughter, Linda, now 21 and taking Education. Ray Dial passed away July 19, 1960 and is buried in Innisfail.

SAMUEL DICKSON by David Burns Dickson

My father, Samuel Dickson, was born in Glasgow on May 16, 1847. He was a jeweller and watchmaker in Glasgow. He married Janet Barclay, born August 17, 1852 in Glasgow, on December 27, 1870.

In the 1890's, excitement flourished in Scotland as news spread of the opportunities available in Canada's newly opened West. My father got the urge to abandon the confines of the city for the more ad-

venturesome and challenging life of a settler in a new land. My mother was reluctant to leave her family. That problem was solved by convincing her brother, Tom Barclay, and her sister, Agnes Burns, that they should all migrate to Canada. Looking back, they were an unlikely group of pioneers, my father being a jeweller, Tom a baker, and David a draper — not a grain of agricultural background in the lot, but all very successful business men in their own field.

So it was that they each sold their businesses in Scotland and on April 21, 1892 my parents Samuel and Janet Dickson; brother Samuel Jr. and myself (David) along with my uncles David Burns and family and Thomas Barclay and family (14 persons including 21 pieces of baggage and trunks) sailed from Bermalaw pier, Glasgow, on the S.S. "Assyrian" bound for Quebec, Canada; then to Winnipeg by C.P.R. We arrived in Winnipeg May 1, 1892. Enroute to Winnipeg, the train crew told of the beautiful country around Red Deer and strongly urged us to look it over.

We secured a cottage where uncle David remained with the women and children while my dad and uncle Tom took the C.P.R. to Red Deer to take a look for themselves. They liked what they saw and each filed on a homestead 4-1/2 miles S.E. of the village of Poplar Grove, N.W.T. They had houses built on the homesteads, then had the group who had remained in Winnipeg come out to their pioneer homes, arriving on a colonist train early in June. My dad and uncle Tom met us at the station and Mrs. Sam Smith took us all in for a dinner of pancakes and a hearty welcome to the community.

My brother Sam, cousin John and I, rode out on the load of trunks with uncle Tom. I remember well the winding trail over the open prairie. Shortly after leaving the village, Sam and John got off the wagon and were chasing a gopher, then Tom saw a badger and called, "There's a bear —". The day was beautiful and warm and all were in high spirits of expectation. We had agreed that whoever saw the young colt left in the barn first claimed ownership. On arrival, John won the race to the not too sturdy barn door with Sam right behind. At that moment the colt jumped out, knocking the door on top of the two of them and I was the only one in a position to see anything, so I got the colt. It eventually grew to weigh a ton and supplied the power on the ranch.

The rest of the family arrived and eventually we got settled down. Uncle David took a homestead along side of us and the location was designated 'The Scotch Settlement' by the neighbors. Life and circumstances were very disappointing to our mother minus the home comforts, but the forming of new habits and changes were gradually overcome, and she learned to at least tolerate the life that the rest of us all loved.

The first winter was very severe. It set in October 3rd with snow that stayed until May. On Christmas day there was two feet of snow and it was 60 degrees below zero. We wintered the team and feed was scarce, so in the Spring of 1893, dad bought a lot in

the village and started a butcher shop and bakery, (Tom baked) and later in 1895 Dad started a general store across the tracks (south). The next year he returned to the ranch with some cattle. This first winter we spent back on the ranch was also a cold winter with lots of snow, but we were better prepared and we remained ranching and later also farming for several years. Those days cattle were the best bet — four or five year old steers brought \$35.00 (nothing younger was accepted for beef). We raised cattle and milked for the creamery until about 1903 when grain growing was included. Grain was in demand and hardy varieties made their appearance on the prairies.

From then on things were prosperous and life enjoyable. We had bought an additional half section including uncle Tom's quarter and had a lease on a quarter in the same area which was a magnificent hay field. With all going well on the ranch, the folks built a house in town (Tracy Ingham's home now) and, leaving we boys to care for the ranch, they moved to town where dad was a butcher for G.W. West. Some years later they sold the ranch to a Mr. Frey. In the early twenties, forced by old age and failing health, they sold the house to George Ingham and came to stay with me at Leslieville where my father passed away in 1925. My mother passed away in Calgary in 1928. Both are buried at Leslieville.



Samuel and Janet Dickson

I recall many incidents of the early years. The Remittance men were good fellows and full of devilry. One of their capers was to ride their horses into the hotel, race through the lobby and out through the other door and away. No one ever got sore as it was all in a day's fun. The local policeman was also a good sport. It was common for travelling salesmen to come into town and set their wagons of wares up in the street, there to go into a great oratory proclaiming the quality of their products. On one such occasion, one of the locals, who joined the crowd of onlookers and prospective buyers, was more than a little inebriated and he decided to contribute to the affair, heckling the salesman mercilessly. If the crowd being so entertained were amused, the salesman was not, and he demanded that he be arrested. The policeman hauled the heckling imbibor

from the scene as straight faced as the occasion called for. The salesman, satisfied with the arrest, never knew that the police escorted the jolly fellow around the corner out of sight and turned him loose.

The first car I remember seeing in town was owned by a man who sported a magnificent beard. It was an amusing sight to see him proudly driving at what all considered break-neck speed down the street, his beard parted in the middle and flowing straight out behind him, one half over each shoulder.

There were lots of Indians around. They were friendly and usually came in with some horses to sell. There was one in particular who always came to our home for a meal but he'd never sit up to the table with the family, always sat on the wood-box to eat. Once this old Indian sold us some berries and my Dad handed him a basin in which to put them (thinking they must be outside for he carried no parcel). However, the Indian set the basin on the floor, held his foot above it, loosed a string that was tied around his ankle and to everyone's amazement out poured the berries. After that we kept our dealings with him somewhat restricted to what was visible.

An incident of a different nature was a local murder trial. One of the settlers had shot his brother-in-law in a dispute. He rode to town and turned himself in. For the trial the accused hired Paddy Nolan to defend him and was subsequently acquitted. Upon leaving the court, the freed defendant thanked Nolan and offered his hand, whereupon Nolan straightened his back, locked his hands behind him and answered, "I don't shake the hand of a murderer." This remark raised more eyebrows than did the murder. The cost of the defense had taken all the accused's assets and he left the district.

Every family had a horse and they were well cared for. The pride in a good horse was equal to that in a luxury car of today. A Mr. Taylor had brought in a son of the famous stallion "Dan Patch". Two of our saddle horses were of this blood line and fine horses they were. Many times I rode to town and sent my horse to beat it home on his own and in the black of night or through a blinding storm, I could lie up against his shoulder and he always got me home safely. The school marm, as part of her wages received the use of this horse — the supreme sacrifice on my part.

My father was a leader in all aspects of community life, preferring this to ranching. In fact, to the day he died he had never learned to hitch a team. He was responsible for the building of the Grahamston School which my mother named in honour of her clan Graham. It is one of the oldest one-room schools still standing.

Debating was one form of entertainment we took part in. One incident I remember was a debate on the topic of Prohibition. I and my partner were to defend the use of spirits. My partner had a good deal of first hand knowledge on the subject and I, being an abstainer, used the Holy Bible for my reference book. We must have convinced the judges that it was a fine idea to 'drink a little wine for your stomach's sake'

for we won the decision. The Church of England minister was appalled and protested the decision. My father, always an advocate of fair play and justice, protested the minister's protest and the fight was on. Everybody chose a side and the argument that followed was much more entertaining than the debate had been.

The T. Eaton catalogue was more a source of entertainment than a source of goods. Many a winter evening was spent browsing through its pages. Once replaced by a new issue, it first became a book of cut-outs for the children and then was pensioned to the out-house where it continued to entertain to the very last page.

Children of Samuel and Janet Dickson:
Samuel Dickson Jr.

Born March 24, 1879 in Glasgow, Sam attended school in Innisfail and then went to Toronto to learn the jeweller's trade. He returned to Innisfail and worked on the ranch until the time it was sold. He returned to Ontario where he married his wife, Alma, and they returned to Alberta and bought a farm at Alhambra where he remained until his death in 1952. For many years prior to his death, he returned to Innisfail to work for George Ingham in the jewelry store. Sam's family are John, Fort Francis, Ont.; Mrs. Mac Pollitt (Donna), Leslieville; Jim, Leslieville; Kenneth, Dryden, Ont.; and Gordon, Nanaimo, B.C.
David Burns Dickson



Janet Dickson; telephone office at Innisfail around 1914.

Born in Glasgow, March 20, 1884. I came with my family to Poplar Grove at the age of eight years, growing up on the ranch east of town and attended Grahamston school. Later I attended school in Innisfail and finished High School in Edmonton. I worked the ranch until it was sold around 1912. I also worked in Geary's Drug Store and while on that job often accompanied Dr. George on his calls to assist him in giving anaesthetics or to be of any such help as was needed. After the folks sold the ranch, I left Innisfail and went operating with the C.P.R. While stationed in Didsbury in 1914 I married Johannah Gertz and for a time returned to farming, this time at Leslieville. The folks, ageing and failing

in health, came to live with us but times were hard and when my father passed away in 1925, I gave up farming and returned to the railroad where I remained for a total of thirty-seven years until retirement in High River in 1951. I have since moved to Calgary where I am in good health at the age of 89. Back in 1905 I went to Edmonton to hear Sir Wilfred Laurier on the occasion of Alberta becoming a province, and in Innisfail, when Lady Aberdeen attended and gave Aberdeen district its name, she presented me with a prize I had won in a painting contest. The prize was two shin plasters (value 50 cents) which I still have. I also attended the first Calgary Stampede in 1912. My family are: Jean (deceased 1933); Dr. Ronald Dickson, Drumheller; Douglas and Russell of Calgary; and a daughter (Joyce) Mrs. A. Tetachuk of Cayley, Alberta.

Janet Graham Dickson (MacDonald)

Born in Innisfail April 9, 1896. Janet was born on the ranch and started school at Grahamston continuing in Innisfail and Edmonton. She was employed as a telephone operator at Innisfail for several years until her marriage to D.C. MacDonald of Calgary. Her husband died in 1953. Charlie Maynard, Pearl Grant and Elsie Detlor were some of Janet's special friends. The family of Duncan and Janet are: Mrs. C.E. Dales (Bernice) and Jack, of Calgary; Mrs. W.W. Sinclair (Helen) of Victoria; a daughter Mary passed away in 1937.

JOE DOAN by Clifford L. Doan

My father, Joe Doan came to Innisfail in 1894 from North Bay, Ontario where he was born in 1870. They had farmed in Ontario in a very crude way, sowing the seed by hand and harvesting with a scythe or cradle. He came west to Alberta to take up a homestead and make farming a way of life.

With no money to speak of, he made his way mostly by riding in a box car or in the old Colony cars. If he ran out of money, work of any kind was the only solution to further travel. He started work in B.C. in logging camps during the winter and back to the homestead (six miles north of Innisfail) in the summer.

Purchasing a team of horses and a wagon, he hauled logs from the Red Deer river area and built a log house and barn. Then, breaking native sod with a team of horses and a walking plow, the first seed was sown on only a few acres.

Then back to the logging camp in the winter to make enough to buy a cow or two. The only groceries in those days were a sack of flour, some salt and sugar. The rest was grown in a small garden or they hunted for wild game.

He was still a single man in those days. About this time his younger brother, Bert, came west and took up farming at Halkirk, Alberta. This worked out well for my father to leave his few head of stock and chickens during the winter while he worked in the lumber camps.

About this time my mother came west, also from Ontario, as a young woman with her parents. Her

maiden name was Caroline Johnson. Mother's family settled in the Penhold area.

Joe Doan married Caroline Johnson early in the century and raised a family of three. I am the oldest, a sister Ruth in Calgary (Mrs. Waggler), and a brother Harold farming west of Olds, Alberta.

Early neighbors of my parents were the Quantz's, the Niblocks, the Stevenetts, the McAllisters, the Whitesides to name a few.

My parents, being a hard working thrifty type, did well in the Innisfail district and progressed into a large productive mixed farm of both horses and cattle. The old homestead is still a landmark in the district.

I well remember my father trading in Innisfail when G.W. West owned the only general store. In those days they would trade a quarter of beef for a sack of flour or sugar. Trips to town were only in case of need as it took a full day with a team of horses.

There were no fences in those days, and winding wagon trails crossed the country taking the shortest route. In the early summers and late fall, prairie fires had to be contended with and many stacks of hay and some homes were lost to sweeping fires driven by high winds. These fires were battled by every man in the country, sometimes being away from home for days.

At the age of 6 I started school in 1911 at a little country school called Antler Hill. As youngsters we got to school on horse-back or walked.

I attended high-school in Penhold to which I rode five miles on horse-back. After high school, I graduated from the Agricultural College at Olds. For one year I attended the University of Alberta during the winter of 1928-29.

I was married in October 1929 to Annie Skene of Red Deer. I don't know whether that finished or started my education. I farmed all my life in the Innisfail district, just two miles from the old homestead.

I became a local councillor on the Municipal Council where I served 26 yrs. — seventeen of them as Reeve. During this time I also served 12 yrs on the Alberta Assn. of Municipal Districts and Counties. Three of these yrs. on the Advisory Committee to the Minister of Municipal Affairs.

In 1970 I retired from council and about this time, 1971, I was persuaded to become M.L.A. for the Innisfail Consituency.

With all this experience behind me, and any achievements in this life, I give credit to my early life and my parents, and my father's motto in life being "Honesty and Hard Work".

I have been a long time member of the Chamber of Commerce, the Lions, the Masons, Shriners, Uniform, the Canadian Legion and many small service clubs.

My parents Joe and Caroline Doan both passed away on the same day in 1964. Dad was 94 and mother was 91 years old. They lie at rest in the Innisfail Cemetery, highly remembered by their family and friends.

THE DOBSON STORY by Fairbanks Dobson

Thomas Fairbanks Dobson, my father, came in the fall of 1893 going to Edmonton from Ontario. He got off the train at Innisfail and talked to G. W. West and "G.W." offered him a job cutting meat and Father stayed from then on.

He was a stone mason by trade and had worked all over Ontario before coming here. He built the Waylie Ellis House, the stone barn Pages had at Pine Lake and the Grahamston school.

He sent for my Grandad, James Dobson to come out and file on a homestead. Dad built a stable on the homestead. On account of the very wet weather it filled up with water and became a slough and they couldn't use it at all.

Thomas (father) was born in Ontario near Toronto. Grandad came originally from Yorkshire, England. My mother was the former Jessie Murray. The Murrays were in Innisfail before the Dobsons having come by wagon train with oxen. Grandfather Hugh Murray homesteaded where the C.P.R. station is today. Later he had the Murray Stopping place and it was here that the first school classroom was held.

My parents were married in Innisfail and there were two children born to them, Thomas James Fairbanks Dobson (me), born Sept. 1896, and Edith born in 1901. Edith passed away in 1948.

I remember Father telling of the trains sinking in their tracks somewhat because of heavy rains.

The first undertaking and furniture store in Innisfail was owned by Joe, Walker and Tom Dobson. Business was brisk with so much typhoid. It was later sold to Mr. W.G. McArthur.

The members of my fathers family were: Walker, Joe, Fred, Sam, John, Sara, Violet and Lizzie and Frank who never came out here. Uncle John Dobson had a garage in about 1914 and employed George Crow. It was located next to the Anglican Manse. It was Uncle John who strung lights over Wests' lumber yard and store to give electricity when the town power plant was not operating. Uncle Joe married Maggie Shanks and later moved to Washington. Uncle Walker homesteaded but never married. Uncle



Hannah, Lizzie, Sarah and Violet Dobson.

Sam married Agnes Westergaard and lived in Innisfail until the garage closed and later to Olds. Uncle John was married before he came West.

Uncle Sam told the story of when he was coming out West with settlers' effects. The bridge they were to cross with the train had burnt out, so he gave an Indian a coin to carry his luggage across the river . . . then he could get on the train on the other side. He was 14 years old at the time.

Grandad, James Dobson, homesteaded across the road from Mr. Hornett.

I was about twelve years old before there was a school to attend. I did go to Glenellen school for a time — later going to Mt. Pleasant. There wasn't schooling in the summer as haying was to be done. My mother died in 1913 and then school days were over for me as I was needed on the farm. Dad and I raised a lot of cattle.

The first time I came to town was when I was twelve years old and it was for the funeral of my Grandad Murray. Mother stayed at G.W. Wests for the night. The Murrays had come from Quebec where they had worked in a textile factory.

We didn't get to town, only seldom as we only had one old nag to get the cattle and there wasn't any other way of travelling. I have walked the 18 miles to town on some occasions. In the early days we lived off the garden, killed a beef in the fall and had rabbits, prairie chicken and ducks.

One time Mike Walton was rounding up cattle and had another man with him. As the cattle were coming over the hill. Grandad James Dobson was walking — one steer charged him and Mike Walton grabbed a lariat and roped the steer stopping Grandad from being killed. But he had been knocked down and after the two men got the cattle under control they went to see how badly he was hurt. Mr. Walton's companion twisted Grandad's leg and said it wasn't broken. They then filled Grandad's pipe, lighted it



The Dobson brothers

for him and left him on the side of the hill while they went to get their democrat and horses to come and pick Grandad up. They returned and put him in the back of the democrat and drove to Innisfail. They found his leg WAS broken.

Father died in 1939. I still reside on the home place. The house I live in was built in 1885. My hobby is gardening and attending auction sales.

In looking through a ledger of the Dobson Undertaking & Furniture Store I found the following prices:

- 1903 Wm Kemp bought a commode chair for \$1.40
- 1904 Duncan Mather bought 6 chairs for \$3.90
- 1904 Wm Geary bought a mattress for \$4.75
- 1904 G.W. West bought an armchair for \$7.00
- 1905 F.M. Rogers bought a parlor table for \$4.50

This is the original receipt and you must not let any one out side of the family get you can sell the linament to anyone but you must not give the

Receipts -
 $\frac{1}{4}$ oz Spirits of turpentine
 $\frac{1}{4}$ oz Spirits of wine
 $\frac{1}{4}$ oz Spirits of Camphor
 $\frac{1}{4}$ oz Spirits of Nitre
 $\frac{1}{2}$ Pint of Vinegar
 $\frac{3}{4}$ oz Common salt

dissolve the salt in the vinegar

You can make your own spirits of Camphor - put $\frac{1}{4}$ oz of Gum Camphor into $\frac{1}{4}$ oz of Alcohol. Let stand 24 hours and pour off all the clear liquid that will make it very strong

THE DODD FAMILY

John Dodd

John Dodd was a native of Watertown, Ontario, born in 1857. In April of 1889 John, Wm. Champ, and Arthur Bioletti walked from Calgary to John Brown's homestead. It took the men about three days to make the trip. John's wife, Margaret, and their family arrived in Poplar Grove later the same year. John lived first in a log shack beside Dodd's Lake — church was held there every Sunday — and later moved to a larger log home on the 'river place'. John's son Will homesteaded the place where Bruce Dodd (Ernest's Son) now lives. On July 7, 1894, G.W. West rented Will's house until his own was ready. In 1896, Will gave his sister Alice \$10 to buy her wedding dress. John Dodd was a qualified steam

engineer and for some years was in charge of the Innisfail Power plant. His brother, Jim Dodd, was the first to fire the power house when the lights went on in 1911. On April 22, 1897, John Dodd went to work for John Walters in his Edmonton sawmill at \$2.50 per day. In 1899 Will Dodd loaded lumber for P.J. Boucher for eight hours earning \$2.40. At that time flour was worth \$2.60 per 100 lbs. Will and Ernest hauled the stone from the Red Deer River used to build what is now the Innisfail Foods building — it was built by Archer & Simpson. Will and Ernest owned the land where Fred Ible's store now is; at that time there was a pool hall and Ed Dodd family lived above it. Besides the pool hall, the building accommodated the Post Office, Mr. Ludlum's real estate office, and in 1916 Mr. Ingham opened his Jewelry Shop, renting space for \$15.00 a month. The building was destroyed by fire on Nov. 26, 1918.

Will, Alice, Jennie, and Ernest Dodd had an orchestra; they often drove to Red Deer with team and buggy or sleigh to play for dances at the rate of \$20.00. Ed Dodd was on the school board when the school was situated where the curling rink is now. At that time the Royal Hotel stood where now is Berscht's and Housman Drugs. In 1911 the Dodd's hauled a huge barn for Frank Malcolm for a fee of \$131.80.

John Dodd died October 25, 1933 and his wife Margaret on April 2, 1944. They had seven children:

William Dodd Born 1872 — died 1935. William Dodd was the eldest son of John Dodd. He homesteaded the quarter in 1894 that Bruce Dodd now resides on. He was not married. He farmed this land until his death in 1935. He liked to keep good horses.

Ed Dodd Born May 24, 1873 — died April 5, 1965. Married Priscilla Dargie in 1907. After coming to this country he homesteaded on a quarter by the Red Deer River. During the winter months he went to Edmonton and worked with his Dad in the lumber mill on the banks of the North Saskatchewan skidding logs down to the river. He also worked on the building of the Edmonton-Calgary railroad at \$1 a day. In 1902 he started working in the Innisfail post office where he served as postmaster for 42 years. The first post office was on Alberta street where Fred's Foods now stands. In Nov. 1918 this building was destroyed by fire and the post office was moved across the street approximately where Burrow's Hardware now stands. The next move was in the Kremer Building, now the Bank of Nova Scotia, next to the lane. From there it moved to the Canadian Bank of Commerce building; this building has since been torn down to make room for the new Treasury Branch. During his many years in Innisfail, Ed Dodd was an active member of the community. In the sports field, he was a catcher and umpire in baseball and a life member in the Curling Club. He was an active member of the Innisfail band and also played in orchestras during the early years. He was one of the early square dance callers. He was a long time mem-



John Dodd's first home on the banks of Dodd's Lake, 1890. Kit and Jack deLong stooking.

ber of the Innisfail School Board and a member of the Foresters.

Before the railroad came through, Ed and Will went to Calgary for supplies twice a year by team and wagon. This trip would take at least a week. On their return, his mother would make them stay outside until she could get them bathed and deloused. In these days they were never hungry because they could always shoot rabbits, prairie chicken or partridge, but they would have to go without many of the staples by the time they could get to Calgary.

Ed and Priscilla Dodd had four children — Ernest, Alec, Gwen and Margaret. Ernest E. Dodd married Hazel Bernisconi and they have one daughter Shirley. Ernie is retired and lives in Vancouver. Shirley married Cliff Greenwood and they have two children — Chris and Lori; they live in Calgary.

Alec Dodd married Helen McElroy and they had one daughter Anita. Alec died on Mar. 31, 1952. Anita married Doug Sanderson and they have three girls. They live in Gibson, B.C.

Gwen Dodd married Norman Stewart and at the present they are living in Kingston, Jamaica. They have no children.

Margaret Dodd married Wesley Houchin. They have three children — Judy, Jerry and Dean; and farm west of Bowden. Judy married Bill Gardiner and lives in St. Albert. They have two children. Jerry married Cheri Doan and lives on the farm at Bowden; they have two children. Dean married Judy Ortwein and also lives on the farm at Bowden. They have three boys.

Alice Dodd married Joe de Long in 1896. She is deceased.

Lorne Dodd Born 1877 — Died 1919. Lorne Dodd married Annie Scholtie and they lived in Calgary. He was conductor for the C.P.R. on the Edmonton run. They had one son, John Edward ("Ted"). Ted married Peg Lovehin and they reside in Victoria. They have no children.

Jenny Dodd Born May 24, 1883. Died Oct. 28, 1971. Jenny married George Stiles and they had three children, Alice, Herbert and Alfred. Jenny started working in the post office in 1902. After her children

were started to school, she returned to the post office and completed 43 years of service. On her retirement, she moved to Edmonton to live with her daughter, Mrs. Alice Dea.

Alice Stiles married John Dea of Edmonton. They had three children: Mary Jean (Messier), Michael and John.

Herbert Stiles married Eva Alden of Innisfail. They live in Didsbury where he has been principal of the Elementary School. They have one daughter, Mrs. Beverley Farkas. Alfred Stiles was a pilot in the second World War and was killed in an aeroplane crash in England and is buried in Harrowgate.

Ernest Dodd Born Aug. 23, 1886 — Died June 13, 1952.

Ernest Michael Dodd, married Ada May Dargie in 1912. Known to all his friends as 'Jack', he was the youngest of John and Margaret Dodd's children. Ernest started his schooling in Eastern Canada but finished at Innisfail. He farmed with his older brother William until Will's death. He then carried on farming just north of Innisfail until his passing.

In his younger days he was active in sports such as baseball and curling. He played trumpet in dance bands around the area. Their first orchestra consisted of his older brother Will on the violin, his sisters Alice and Jenny taking turns on the piano and he played the trumpet. He also played in the first Innisfail Band. Every fall he and his good friend, Dr. Hank Wagner, would go out west for big game.

Ernest and Ada Dodd had three children: Lorne John, Robert Bruce, and Peggie Barbra.

Lorne drowned in Dodd's Lake at the age of 5 years on Nov. 19, 1918.

Bruce is on the farm just north of Innisfail. Like his father, he has played trumpet for years in various orchestras. He married Clara Slette and they have three children: Trudy Ann, Terrence Michael, and Deborah Lynn. Trudy is married to Gary Patrick and they live in Calgary. They have one son — Michael Jason. Terry married Donna Daines and he farms with his Dad. Debby just finished her Grade XII last year at Innisfail and is working as a secretary in Vancouver.

Peg Dodd married Ed Smith and they live in Vancouver. They have two children, Ernest Bruce and Sandra Lynn. They are both at home. Peg has worked for many years at Vancouver Sun Newspaper Co.

Ada May Dodd spends most of her time on the farm with her son Bruce and family; but when the Alberta winters arrive she flies out to Vancouver to her daughter Peg and family.

Margaret Dodd Born 1880.

Maggie married Tom Buckham and they lived in Jasper. Tom Buckham worked for the C.N.R. and died as a result of an accident. Maggie worked as hostess at Maligne Lake Lodge for a number of years. They had two children: Margaret — who never married and is living in Claresholm; and John — an air gunner with the R.C.A.F., was shot down over Holland during the 2nd world war and was never found.

NEWTON DONOVAN by Beth Donovan

My father, Newton Donovan, was born at Butler, Missouri on November 24, 1879. He had been a Postal Clerk and Rural Mail Carrier for a number of years and had farmed for one year before coming to Alberta. He married Margaret Myrtle Donner of Elgin, Nebraska on March 16, 1910. She was born at Elgin on October 28, 1881. They had two daughters, Beth and Willetta. Mr. Donovan came to Innisfail because of interest in settlement schemes of Alberta. He brought farm equipment, machinery, horses and household furniture in railroad cars of settlers effects under the immigration scheme. The trip took about 12 days as it was necessary to unload the horses at various stops along the way. His wife, Myrtle Donovan, travelled by passenger train arriving the day after her husband had arrived at Innisfail. The trip had taken her three days and three nights.

They came to a farm in the Buffalo Creek District which had been the homestead of Dave Beggs. There was a two story log house that had been very well built, as Dave Beggs was considered a very superior axeman. Just the week before the Donovans arrived this house was still being used as a schoolhouse for the Buffalo Creek pupils as the Buffalo Creek School was not in use right at that time. Not being accustomed to Alberta weather conditions, Mr. Donovan was upset over an early September snowstorm and expected his crop to be a complete loss.

In the early years, my father, accompanied by Robert Donner, got wood by driving with horses to the farm of Wm. Robertson who lived in the Oklahoma district. It was a long days' drive for a load of wood. Prairie chickens, partridges, and wild ducks were very abundant, so hunting was both pleasant and rewarding. Shopping for food and clothing was done at Innisfail and sometimes at Bowden.

The first neighbours were Mr. & Mrs. Neil Cameron, Mr. Robert H. Donner, Mr. & Mrs. W.J. Miller, Mr. & Mrs. J. Banner, Mr. & Mrs. J.W. Thompson, Mr. & Mrs. James Wilson, Mr. & Mrs. Hugh MacDougall, Mr. & Mrs. John Phillips, Mr. George Wilson and his parents, Mr. & Mrs. J. Wilson and Mr. & Mrs. Isaac Depencier. My father bought his first cow from Mr. Depencier.

Beth and Willetta attended school at Buffalo Creek, Innisfail High School, Camrose Normal

School, and Summer Sessions at Edmonton and Calgary. Beth Donovan graduated from Eastern Washington College of Education at Cheney, Washington.

My first teacher was Miss L.M. Tester, who is living in Calgary. Other teachers at Buffalo Creek School were: Miss Agnes Moffat, Mrs. F. Tester, Mr. Alva Baycroft, Miss V. McKenzie, Mrs. Louella Bryan, Miss Ethel Hayes, Mr. W.J. Baycroft and Miss Nora Shenfield. Among the families who attended school when I did at Buffalo Creek were the Millers, Thompsons, Normans, Phillips, Arnolds, Johnstones, Johnsons, Camerons, Lamperts, Beggs, Friths, Lockharts, Scarfes and Knipes.

I was a member of the first Grade XII class at the Innisfail High School that was a part of the regular high school program. Prior to that year the parents of students attending Grade XII paid the additional cost for the extra teacher required. The room that was used as a classroom had originally been used as a Principal's office. This room was used as a Grade XII Classroom until 1938. Rosalind Edwards, Emma Freeman, and Richard Miller were in my Grade XII Class. Mr. Willis and Miss Harbour were the teachers.

The early families I remember were the early neighbours who were living in the district when my mother and father came to the Buffalo Creek District. My mother and father lived in this district from March 1911 until November 1959 when they moved in to Innisfail to live. Mrs. J.W. Thompson who had been one of their first neighbours was still living in the district at that time.

Newton Donovan died August 27, 1963 and Myrtle Donovan died November 2, 1970. Interment is in Innisfail.

Willetta married Cecil English of Bulwark, Alberta. She taught school for a number of years at Caroline and Bulwark prior to her marriage. They have lived at Bulwark, Hussar, Strathmore, and are now living in Calgary. They have one daughter, Margaret, (Mrs. R.J. McKuskey) of Calgary and one son LeRoy English of Calgary.

Beth Donovan taught school and for the seven years prior to retirement was Vice Principal of the John Wilson Elementary School at Innisfail. She was a member of the Presbyterian Choir, Pythian Sisters Peace Temple No. 8 Innisfail, Innisfail Historical Society, Early Childhood Education Association, Council of School Administrators, Bertram Denison Chapter I.O.D.E. She is now living in Calgary.

ROBERT H. DONNER by Robert H. Donner Jr.

My father, Robert H. Donner was born near Boston, Lincolnshire, England in 1873. He was one of seven children to join his father Robert Donner at Gordon, Nebraska in 1892. He worked for farmers and cattle companies in Nebraska until 1900. It was at this time that he with Neil Cameron came to Canada. Neil Cameron had been working too at the J.C. Carson Cattle Co. in Irwin, Nebraska. They were actually headed for Lacombe looking for homestead land. The train stopped in Innisfail and the station



L. to R.: Mrs. Harry Cooke, Miss Mary MacDougall, Miss Minnie McKay, Mrs. Newton Donovan, Mr. Newton Donovan, Mrs. J. W. Thompson, Mrs. T. Rawlinson, Mrs. Dorothy Leslie.

agent, George Bryan, persuaded them to look at some Calgary and Edmonton Land Co. land that he was handling. They bought Sec 7-35-28 W4 at \$3.00 per acre and with an interest at 6%.

They went back to Nebraska for the winter and returned April of 1901 with a carload of effects including 6 horses. The railway car "Fremont, Elkhorn & Miss Valley R.R." was loaded at Gordon April 1, and arrived in Innisfail via St. Paul North Portal R.R. on April 11.

Mr. & Mrs. Neil Cameron came with him and they all stayed in a 3 story house belonging to Mr. & Mrs. Gillingham. This house burned down about 1950. When they had their shacks built they divided sec 7 with Mr. & Mrs. Cameron taking the east half and R.H. Donner the fractional west half.



Rbt. H. and Mary Cameron Donner in 1912.

I was told of the time he was kicked on the head and having to crawl to Camerons (about 1/2 mile) for help. Another disaster was in about 1904 or 05 when his shack burned. He was only able to save a few papers. Neil Cameron had just finished building a new chicken house and this was moved and served as part of the farm home until 1945.

Cash seemed to be non existant during the first years. The crops were first hay and horses. He and Neil put up wild hay for the Burns Cattle Co. at various locations between Olds and Pine Lake.

It was in the spring of 1911 that Mary and William Cameron (Niece & nephew of Neil Cameron) came from Lenzie, Scotland to Camerons. Robert Donner and Mary Cameron were married in March of 1912.

Some of my Dads' early neighbors were Dave Beggs, Bill Miller, Hugh McDougall, James Wilson, Dave Arnell, Newton Donovan, J.W. Thompson, E.H. Dennis and many more. Many of these became my friends and neighbors too.

My Dad served as trustee and secretary of the Buffalo Creek School from shortly after it was organized in 1908 until his death in 1915. He is buried in the Innisfail Cemetery.

See William Cameron

ROBERT H. DONNER JR.

I was born in 1913 and only surviving child of Robert H. Donner & Mary Cameron Donner. I started school at Buffalo Creek. When mother married Alex Hodge we lived in Calgary. I attended Mount Royal and Bankview schools in Calgary. We returned to Buffalo Creek when we moved to the farm in 1925. When I finished school in 1929, I gradually assumed the farm operation. In 1942, I married Doris Marion Stuart the only daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Robert Stuart. We have 4 children: Marion (Mrs. Del Pybus), Margaret (Mrs. Vern Stahl), Elizabeth, a Home Economist at Taber, and James Alex attending Olds regional College and almost ready to take over the family farm.

Many of the early neighbors had been friends of my Dad and I hope were friends of mine and our family. A few names that come to mind and with apologies to those I have not mentioned, but not forgotten. They and their families have been part of our lives. Andy Lennox, G.W. West, Joe Delong, Stan Fox, the Hodge family at the Coliseum, Drs. Turner, Wagner and Carscallen, Halls and Daines (Blacksmiths), Doc Pruitt (Veterinarian), Ed Dodd and Mrs. Stiles at the Post office, Dave Arnell (Auctioneer), Dodds and Barkmeyers did the early threshing. Bob Teeling of Bowden drilled the first well in 1909. Fred and Captain Archer, John Phillips, James Wilson, Obe Scarfe, Roy Baycroft, Charles Knipe, J.W. Thompson, S.E. Wood, Bill Miller, Hugh Brown, Carl Lind, John Wilson, Hugh MacDougall, Don Manuel. And most important to me were Newton Donovan and Neil Cameron.

Visiting seems to have been the main early recreation. My earliest memory would be dances at MacDougalls that lasted until daylight. Alex Cameron on the fiddle and Harry Ross on the guitar. Of course there were the school picnics and Christmas concerts.....and a very rare picture show in the old Opera House run by George Bryan.

Some of the early records of early prices I have found are: 1910 Province subscription was \$1.50. Market hogs sold at 6-1/2c lb. We bought oats for 45c bus. Early wages that I earned were \$1. per day doing choring in the winter. In 1930 \$4.00 per day threshing. \$2.50 for stooking. In the dirty thirties, threshing wages dropped to \$1.25 per day for man, team and rack.

Outside of the farm my activities have been few. I served as a school trustee for 10 - 12 years., with Mountain View Livestock Co-op for several years, Bowden Innisfail Telephone 10 - 12 years, Innisfail Coop Assn. 8 - 9 years, Little Red Deer R.E.A. and the Innisfail Farm Fire Assoc. at the present time.

DR. C.F. DORSEY by Dr. C.J. Greene

Dr. C.F. Dorsey came to Innisfail in 1923. He was a graduate of the University of Toronto and had practiced in Northern Ontario in a mining area. He became interested in coal mining at Nordegg which he bought into. The men went on strike and stayed out long enough that the mine closed. Dr. Dorsey

then went to Red Deer for a short time and decided to open a practice in Innisfail.

It was in Innisfail that he started a new medical scheme where a family would pay \$25. a year. This would pay for services from Dr. Dorsey including operations, office calls, house calls, any treatment, for the entire family. The result was that he was called morning, noon and night. He went over bad roads, snow, mud and ice. This was extremely hard on him and on his cars (which would be needing constant repair).

Mrs. Dorsey took an active part in the Dramatic Club in Innisfail and helped many young people to appreciate good speech and strive for higher education. Through some of the plays she directed they were able to build a tennis court in Innisfail. She was a great worker in the Order of the Eastern Star and started the history for this organization.

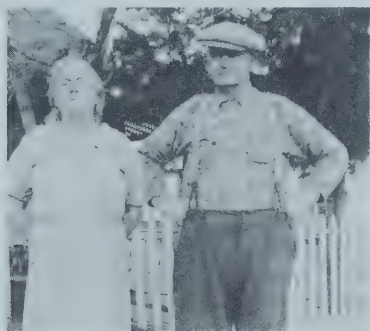
Dr. and Mrs. Dorsey have two sons: Jack who is associated with the City of Edmonton. He married Marie Dezall R.N.; Frank, who graduated in medicine from the University of Alberta and specialized in Obstetrics. He is now retired in Oliver, B.C. with his wife the former Alfreda Rear who has her degree in nursing.

ETTA AND THOMAS DOUGHERTY by Vivian A. Cummins Granddaughter

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Dougherty came to Canada from Illinois in 1909. Previous to their coming he had been engaged in farming and railroading. When they crossed into Canada and had their first meal in this new country they thought they had been poisoned when they were served black tea, as they were only used to drinking green tea back home in the States.

They first homesteaded at Millet; then he went to Airdrie as section foreman with the railroad. He told of the Saturday nights in that town in the early days as being hectic. All the cowboys would come in for liquid refreshments on Saturdays, and by the close of the day it was like a stampede going on right in the town.

It was in 1914 that the Dougherty's moved to Innisfail. He was section foreman here until 1935, when he retired. The Dougherty's raised three children: Alice M. who married Jess Sucee and resided in Innisfail. They had three children: Vivian, Betty (who died as a child), and Virginia (Mrs. Buck Douglas) of Calgary.



Mr. and Mrs. Dougherty

The other two children were twins: Mary and Everett. Mary married Jack Hiron. They lived in Innisfail prior to going to Edmonton. They have two children: Margaret and Mary Lee. Everett married Dolly Arnell and they reside in Calgary. (See Arnell story.)

I remember on May 5th, 1919 there was a very bad snow storm and Dr. Turner was needed desperately in Bowden to deliver a baby. The only way to get there was via hand car with Tom Dougherty taking him. Mother and baby arrived fine and the Doctor and my Grandfather returned safely too.

Mr. and Mrs. Dougherty were well respected citizens of Innisfail and their kindness and hospitality will always be remembered. They always extended help to any in need. My Grandmother was kind to everyone and especially to me, who she raised. I was the first baby to be born in the (Old) Innisfail Hospital. I married Lawrence Cummings in 1934 and we have three children: Betty (Mrs. Stump) of Oids, Bobby on the home place and Alice (Mrs. Gullacher) of Calgary.

Thomas Dougherty passed away in Innisfail on October 1, 1943. Mrs. Etta Dougherty passed away on February 23, 1958. Both are interred at the Innisfail Cemetery.

I feel quite confident that this fine couple will be remembered by many and never forgotten by me.

JOHN DUFF by Fred Duff

My father, John Duff was born in Hornby, Ontario in 1872 coming from Irish stock. He always claimed he was smuggled into Canada from Ireland as he was born a short time after the family arrived here. My mother was Isabel Wilson (Billy Wilsons' sister). She was born at Petrolia, Ontario about 1876.

Father came with the railroad to Innisfail in 1891 to be Innisfail's first station agent. The first station here was a box car used for an office. He first stayed with G.W. West. He claimed he was the first station agent north of Calgary as coming on that same train that brought him here was a station agent for Red Deer and one for Stathcona, but he got off first and started work first.

Mother came to Innisfail in 1892. My father and mother were married January 3, 1893 in Innisfail. My father was the first Innisfailian to receive a pay check (coming from the C.P.R.).

Father stayed here three years and then went to the coast as a night train dispatcher. The night I was born (in British Columbia), the Indians shot up the hotel we were at because they weren't admitted to the bar, so my mother being frightened went to the section house where I was born. It was because of this scare, that my mother and I came back to Innisfail to be with her family (1894). My father came back later and decided to go into the Steam Engine business. It was the first of its' kind in the country being in 1895, and my father hired an engineer to fire it up the first year. The next year he did it himself. The C.P.R. agent that followed my father was G.E. Bryan. I remember Bill Gallagher and Tom Clark were on the C.P.R. run with engineer Ormiston. We could travel

back and forth in the baggage car without tickets. I remember Conductor Rankin who used to throw up a coin (fares) and if it stuck on the ceiling the C.P.R. could keep it, if it fell, he kept it.

When my father was first here he knew the Harry Douglas and Curry Brothers and had a great respect for the Icelanders in the West Country. I remember too that Mr. G.W. West never swore, but only would say "By Gum" when really perturbed.

As a child of ten years, my Dad ran away and hid in settlers' effects. He never went to school. He couldn't write, but could read and so when he sent for his mother to come to Innisfail, he did it through cutting out parts of a newspaper to make the letter. Dad started out as a messenger boy with the C.P.R. and copied and sent messages at 14 years of age. The only training he received in telegraphy was by listening into the stations. When he was 16 years old he was station agent at Walsh, Alberta. There used to be the "silk train" and Rankin was on it. With he and my father both being Irish, many pranks were pulled. I remember one time farmers went back to Ontario to get some bulls. There was a deal with the C.P.R. (who wanted good cattle in the west) that there would be no charge on these for unloading. However, Mr. Rankin was collecting \$5.00 and a farmer reported to my Dad that he was going to send a telegram to the C.P.R. reporting this. My Dad quickly got in touch with Rankin and the \$5.00 was returned to the farmer.

There were four children in our family: Fred (I was born in 1894), Edward was born in the Aberdeen district in 1896, Stella was born in 1898 and Eileen was born in 1906.

We spent time in Morley as children and Hazel Center was the first white girl I had ever met! Father went to Olds in 1899 with the C.P.R. and continued with the C.P.R. until 1907. He went into the threshing business and went broke. He went into the hardware business in Olds and had extended too much credit so went broke there too. He went into the car business — selling a carload of E.M.F. cars in 1910. He sold his first car to G.W. West. It had a right hand drive.

My Mother and father were in the Order of the Eastern Star and Mother was the first Worthy Matron in Alberta (Olds' Mountain View Chapter No. 1) Father was a great Orangeman and Mason.

I remember the St. Denys being such great ball players and the Vartys and Howard Wynn.

We lived over Wests' store in 1898 and at this time Dad was doing relief work at the station. Mother didn't want to bring up her children with Indians so we left Morley and went to Olds. Mother was a telegraph operator as well and when my Dad was hunting or fishing she looked after the station. In Olds she worked as an assistant telegrapher.

Thinking back I don't know how G.W. West carried on — no money anywhere, credit extended to all in need. I remember him shipping hay to us in Olds in the baggage car to feed our horses. For a while my Dad and Cloakey sold land for the C & E.

Dad was an exceptional shot. One time he won seven turkeys at a shoot and they wouldn't let him shoot any more. One time he shot an eagle and then discovered there were two little ones left. So he shot squirrels and gophers to feed them. He kept them until they were full grown and became somewhat dangerous — then he sold them.

I did some threshing in the early days and had a threshing rig I owned. I attended the Olds Agricultural school in 1913. Frank Stevenett, Bristol Center, Bill Scarlett and a McAllister were there at the same time. I then went in to farming at Olds. I married in 1915 and we have three daughters and a son.

My father, John Duff died in 1944 and mother died in 1934.

THE DUNCAN FAMILY by Mrs. Thomas B. Duncan

Mr. & Mrs. John Duncan Sr. arrived in the Innisfail district from Scotland in 1890. Making the trip with them were two daughters and a son: Miss Margaret Duncan; Miss Jessie Duncan; and Mr. John Duncan, Jr. (a widower) and his two sons, Thomas B. Duncan and J. Hamilton Duncan. They were later joined by two other daughters, Miss Elizabeth Duncan and Miss Jean Duncan, who arrived from the States having come from Scotland to the U.S.A. Margaret and Jessie were teachers; Margaret was the first teacher at the Little Red Deer School when it opened in 1896.

Miss Jean Duncan married Alfred Carter and they lived on his farm in Little Red Deer. Miss Margaret Duncan moved to Vancouver and later married Mr. Fleischman. Miss Jessie Duncan married Wm. Pennington of Penhold.

Miss Elizabeth Duncan was one of the founding members of the LRD Dorcas Society formed in 1912. In 1946 the Dorcas Society affiliated with the Alberta Women's Institute and the group is still active today.

In Scotland, before homesteading in this new country, J. Duncan Sr. was a blacksmith, and his son, J. Duncan, Jr. a general merchant. On Feb. 9, 1921, Thomas B. Duncan married Catherine Janet Campbell, a teacher who was born in Ontario, and had come west to the Bowden district with her parents in 1900, later taking up residence in Little Red Deer district in 1912. Thomas Braedwood Duncan (born Feb. 6, 1886) and his brother Hamilton, were among the first pupils to attend the Little Red Deer School with their Aunt, Margaret Duncan as teacher. Other pupils at that time were: Mrs. Mary Leach, Mr. Fred Tester and Mrs. D. Sinclair. John Duncan Jr. was secretary of the Little Red Deer School Board for many years.

Mr. J. Hamilton Duncan passed away in the spring of 1923. He is survived by a daughter, Lillian, living at Brightsgrove, Ontario. Mr. J. Duncan, Jr. died on Oct. 22, 1939. Mr. Thomas B. Duncan died on Oct. 18, 1965. All are buried in the Innisfail Cemetery.

Children of Thomas B. and Catherine Janet Duncan are:

Elizabeth May graduated from Calgary Normal school and after teaching for two years married Harold W. Anderson of Bowden. They are farming in the Bowden district. They have two sons — Gary and Ken; and two daughters — Margaret and Carol.

John Hamilton Duncan married Anne Wight of Red Deer in 1961; they reside on the Donald Campbell farm in LRD.

Thomas Donald Duncan is living on the original homestead with his mother, Mrs. T.B. Duncan.

Gordon Braedwood Duncan received a degree in Pharmacy and later a degree in Medicine from the University of Alberta. In 1954 he married Anne Severn and they live in Edmonton with daughter Cathy and son Lorne.

Leslie Campbell Duncan married Mary Gibson of Innisfail in 1955. They have three daughters — Pat, Barbara and Joan and two sons — Brian and Kevin. They live on the Geo. Calder farm in LRD.

GEORGE DUNCAN by Mrs. Harold Stabenfeldt

George Duncan was born in Kingston-on-Spa, Scotland in 1854. He was looking for a new life away from the city and decided to emigrate to Canada in 1892. He was accompanied by his sister, Margaret Duncan, who kept house for him until his marriage. She continued to live at his home until her death. He had made friends with Mr. & Mrs. Dickson, who were also coming to Canada, but they were afraid to go west of Winnipeg on account of the Indians. However, after a short time, they arrived in Poplar Grove, also.

George had been a violin maker in Glasgow. He won two gold medals for his work, one in London in 1885, and the other in Glasgow in 1886. He made several violins after coming to Innisfail, where he had taken a homestead a few miles west of town. In 1898 he bought the west half of Sec. 25-36-1-5, C.P.R. land, in what was later the Big Bend district. He ranched for a number of years, until more settlers came and the open range was all gone. Then he raised purebred Clyde horses, later purebred Hereford cattle, which won him many prizes. In 1905 he won the only territorial Cattle Breeders Silver Medal that was ever given — now in his daughter's possession.

I remember dad telling about fording the Red Deer river when it was in flood, and about the troubles the postmaster from Tindastoll had in crossing the river with the mail; he kept his boat near the Duncan place.

For a number of years after dad arrived he made several trips to Calgary with team and wagon to sell farm produce — the trip taking two days each way. There were stopping houses along the way and at one place it cost 25c for water for the horses.

He married Ann Dick from Balliston, Scotland on June 29, 1898 in Calgary. A son, John, born May 23, 1900 died in infancy. Catherine, born on January 25, 1906 married Harold Stabenfeldt of Haney B.C. on Nov. 22, 1937. They have one daughter, Margaret, born in 1943 who married Harold Schmidt. They have two daughters; live at Sardis, B.C.

In those early days, anyone living within 15 or 20 miles were neighbors. Our closest neighbors were Ross's, Sullivans, Martins, McDougals, and Sigardsons.

George Duncan was a member of the Municipal Council of Poplar Grove for a number of years and was chairman of the hospital board for many years up to the time of his death.

I attended Big Bend and Tindastoll schools. One of my very early teachers was Miss Louise Tester. Early families I remember most were the Munros, McGrandles, Morisons, and Scotts; all farmers. Those I remember most in Innisfail were the storekeepers — Hodges, Wests, Geary's Drug Store, Mr. McDermot the jeweller, and a Mr. Wilson, manager of the Royal Bank who kept shetland ponies. When a new colt would arrive, my father would take me to see it, which made my day in town one to remember.

Mrs. Duncan died on August 25, 1910 at the age of 41 years. Miss Margaret Duncan died on Feb. 2, 1922 at the age of 82. George Duncan died on April 15, 1938 at the age of 84. All are interred in Innisfail.

EDWARD AMBROSE DUNK by Geoff Dunk & Mrs. Marjorie Lewis

Edward Ambrose Dunk was born at Swanly, Kent, England on Oct. 16, 1876. He attended Cambridge University and while there was on their rowing team. After university he worked as a bank clerk, but saw little future for himself. So he decided to emigrate to Canada and arrived in Innisfail in April 1908. He took up farming in the Oklahoma district and felt that his greatest achievement was that he survived!

His neighbors were Jack Curtis, N.M. Robinson, Eric McKenzie-Grieve, W.G. Kelly, Abe Freeman, and Sanborns. Like many other settlers, Mr. Dunk worked out at odd jobs as well as developing his "mixed farm" which produced cream, pigs, cattle, grain and wood.

Edward married Freda Brownfield of Gravesend, Kent, England at St. Marks Anglican Church in Innisfail on October 3, 1908. She had come out from England in July to be married to Edward. She was a city girl, well educated, a great reader, and had a gift for painting. She adapted so well to farm living!

In 1921 Mr. Dunk rode horseback to take census and slept out in vacant houses until his route was finished. He helped to get the Gordon School district



Geoffrey, Mr. and Mrs. Dunk, Marjorie, ?.

established and was the first secretary of the district, often fording the river in order to attend school meetings. Later when ill health forced him to retire from farming, he sold insurance and his eldest son took over the farm.

E.A. Dunk died July 19, 1927 and his wife, Freda Dunk, died July 28, 1950; both interred in Innisfail Cemetery.

Three Children:

Geoffrey Edward — attended Gordon School; served in WWII 1942 - 1946; married Gladys Mary Fletcher of Gravesend, Kent, England; 3 children — Ian, Brian and Carol; lives in Calgary.

Marjorie Freda — attended Gordon School; member of Oklahoma Dorcas with Mrs. N.P. Nielsen, Mrs. J. Bird, Mrs. T. Abraham, Mrs. A. Freeman, Mrs. Sanborn and Mrs. W.R. Parkin; married David Lewis in 1942; 2 children — Nancy, and Ted; lives in Innisfail.

Leonard James — attended Oklahoma School; farming in Oklahoma district. What has impressed us most was the happiness with which people cooperated and the happy times they had together.

THE JOHN DURHAM STORY by Miss R.W. Durham

In 1897, John Durham and his father, Norvil Durham, came from Harrisburg, Ontario, to take up homesteads four miles east of Poplar Grove. A family named Standish had lived on this land and had built a log house on each quarter.

The Durhams came by C.P.R. Colony train. Norvil and his family travelled by coach in four days. John, the eldest son, then seventeen, accompanied the livestock — horses, cattle, hogs, a team of oxen and poultry — which he fed and watered in the stock cars. His journey took eleven days. They brought the farm machinery of the times such as a binder, walking plough, sulkie plough, harrows; and also furniture.

Those who came were Norvil and Etta Durham and their young children, James, Wilfred, Laura, Mabel and Bertha who went to school at Aberdeen. Ethel, John, Edward and Winifred were the older children. Their mother was Christina Ironside, who died in 1888. Ethel nursed in Edmonton, Edward soon went to British Columbia, and Winifred finished Grade 8 at Aberdeen, then returned to Ontario to her grandparents to finish her schooling.

Dad was born in Harrisburg, Ontario June 13, 1880. He grew up on the family farm. During the first years at Innisfail he spent part of each year working on his homestead as required by the homestead regulations. There was little ready cash. Grandfather received sheep in return for cutting a neighbour's grain with his binder. An egg bought a 2-cent stamp. The year 1898 was so dry that horse races were held on what was known as Dodd's Lake, and gophers, unknown in Ontario, caused much damage to the crops. Conditions improved in following years and crops grew well on the newly broken land.

To earn money, Dad worked for ranchers in the Calgary area, and once helped drive a herd of cattle from Calgary to Currie's Ranch at Castor, fording the



Lillian and John Durham.

Red Deer River at Content on the way. On their return they stayed overnight in a sod house belonging to brothers named Gaetz. In winter Dad worked at lumber camps in the mountains.

Wild game was plentiful and partridges, prairie chickens, wild ducks, and sometimes fish from Pine Lake, salted on the spot to preserve them, provided meals that were a welcome change from the regular fare, and were remembered for a lifetime. The garden the family used is still in use after 75 years.

In 1904, Norvil Durham moved his family back to Ontario. Dad bought his quarter and began batching. Keeping a supply of bread was his biggest problem. It was the custom to make biscuits with soda, which required a good deal of skill. Dad's biscuits were heavy and tasted strongly of soda. He was shown how to make bannock in a frying pan and became quite adept at it. Years later we persuaded him to make some for us. He hadn't lost the knack and it was very good.

Dad's brother, Ed, was fifteen when they came. He was an adventurous boy, and soon left for Vancouver, where there was much talk of the Yukon gold rush. After a few letters, nothing was heard of him for a long time. Finally, a letter came from a prospector in Peru, saying he and Ed had gone there to look for gold. Somewhere in the Andes mountains of Peru, at the age of eighteen, Ed had died of smallpox. A letter from a sister was in his pocket. The prospector's letter had been a year on the way.

Our mother was Lillian Fry, born in Westover, Ontario, on April 8, 1878. She attended Normal School in Toronto, and taught in her home town of Dundas, Ontario. In 1909 she and her sister, Marion, came West.

Mother taught one year at Rugby, west of Didsbury, and told of being asked to play the piano when Bishop Pinkham came to conduct church services. An unsteady block of firewood served as a piano stool, and she was fearful of knocking it over with her long, full skirt.

The following year, Mother taught at the Aberdeen school (then located on the Malcolm farm). Her pupils were the sons and daughters of the early pioneers of the district. She was fond of them and pleased that many remained her friends through the

years. Some family names of children that we remember her mentioning were: Bascombe, Bilton, Laing, E.H. Center (where she boarded), W.L. Center, Hovey, George Lalors, Richard Lalor, MacLean, Malcolm, Moffat, Springay, Tams and Cameron.

Dad and Mother were married at the home of Willard and Marion Nelson in Sunnyslope on New Year's Day, 1912. On the south quarter of the farm, Dad had built a two-storey frame addition to the front of the existing log house. This was their home until it was destroyed by fire.

Twins, Edith and Winifred, were born on the farm, with a doctor, nurse and some of Mother's family in attendance. Six years later Marion was born in the frame house that had become a hospital in Innisfail. Mother taught school for a time after the twins were born.

Some early neighbours, apart from the parents of children already mentioned were Will Macleods, Turnbulls, Waites, McBrooms, Biggs, Archibalds, Laings, McAdams, and Scarfes.

Our earliest recollections of traffic on the road are of people on horseback, and a variety of buggies, democrats, wagons of various kinds in summer, and sleighs and cutters with jingling bells on the horses in winter. Hired rigs from the livery stable were easily recognized. The early cars appeared only in summer. A Mr. Jardine took mail to and from the east. Men drove their cattle to the railway at Innisfail, and we remember Mr. Mike Walton, among others, stopping overnight to feed and water his stock before driving them on to market.

Our teachers at Aberdeen were Miss Boyd, Miss Fead, Miss Smith, Miss Bryden, Miss Creighton, Miss Jones, Miss Lockerby, Miss Black, Miss Whealon, and Mr. Quantz. Mrs. Fisher and then Mrs. Hunt played the piano for the school concerts. For several years Dad served as chairman and trustee of the Aberdeen School board.

Our family lived on the farm for 65 years. Dad was interested in beef cattle and gradually built up a herd of purebred Herefords. We milked cows and sold butter or cream. Dad raised sheep in the early days, and mother made quilts and comforters padded with wool. In later years she had the wool made into lovely pastel blankets which we still have. We have pleasant memories of Mrs. Biggs, and Mrs. Frank Laing carding and spinning wool. Mrs. Laing once gave Dad a pair of socks knitted of wool from her own spinning wheel. Each night the sheep were brought to an enclosure near the house where they would be safe from coyotes. The lambs played there in the evening.

On our farm were interesting reminders of the past. A deep buffalo trail snaked through the pasture, and from the northeast a track made by people who had cut across to avoid wet roads wound across the farm. On a height of land that afforded a lovely view of the Rockies, we found Indian arrow heads. Dad had found buffalo skulls and elk antlers, and sometimes the plow turned up pieces of pemmican.

In 1930 Dad went to hospital in the midst of harvesting. What happened then speaks for the spirit of the men and women of our district. A surprise working bee was held for us. The men arrived with binders and racks to cut and stook the grain and stack the greenfeed. The women came to help prepare chickens for roasting and make apple pies. Harvesting operations were completed by the end of the day. When winter came, they held a wood-sawing bee. Dad had cut the wood and the men hauled it to the yard and had it sawed in short order. We will always be grateful.

Edith married Russell Watson. They live in Calgary and have a son, Sandy. Marion and Winnie also live in Calgary.

Dad died at his farm home on December 2, 1958. Mother came to live in Calgary in 1963. She remained in good health until in her 90's. She died at her home in Calgary at the age of 93, June 17, 1971. Both Mother and Dad are buried at Innisfail.

SUMMERTIME FAVORITES



Sailing at Mud Lake



Horse Racing in "Crystal Pool", Jack Naylor in foreground.



Camping at Mud Lake



Swimming at "Crystal Pool": L. to R. Madeline Nolan, Esther Nolan, Freda Blenkhorn, Elva Nolan, Carmen Johnson.

EARLY CLUBS AND SOCIETIES IN INNISFAIL

Innisfail Agricultural Society 1892
 Territorial Natural History Society 1899
 Loyal Orange Lodge
 Canadian Foresters
 Royal Templars
 Ancient Order of United Workmen Lodge
 I.O.O.F.
 Football Club
 Curling Club
 Innisfail Rifle Association
 Baseball Club
 a Public Library was organized in 1902
 Masonic Lodge — 1894

EARLY HISTORY OF THE ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR IN INNISFAIL by Mrs. Hazel Stevenett

On Jan. 5th, 1920 a petition, signed by nineteen women and fourteen men for a dispensation to form a subordinate Chapter of the O.E.S. in Innisfail was submitted to Grand Chapter and on Jan. 14, 1920 the dispensation was granted.

Mr. and Mrs. W.C.A. Watt were really responsible for the organization of the Order in Innisfail. Many others have labored faithfully in various capacities during all the history of making period.

On Thursday, February 12, 1920 Innisfail Chapter under dispensation of the Grand Chapter was duly instituted. Brother T. Wilson of Edmonton, G.P. of the Grand Chapter of Alberta was in charge of the ceremonies assisted by Past Grand Matron Sister I. Duff. The first Worthy Matron was Mina M. Watt and the first Worthy Patron was Brother L.M. MacLean.

INNISFAIL MASONIC LODGE NO. 8 by Frank Stevenett

In the early part of 1894 a number of Freemasons met and decided to form a lodge. At that time this area came under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba. In due course a dispensation was granted to the Innisfail brethren dated June 14, 1894. The first Worshipful master was J.A. Simpson. A charter was granted and on August 15, 1895 Innisfail Lodge No. 58 A.F. & A.M.G.R.M. was regularly constituted.

After the Province of Alberta came into being the lodges operating in the new Province formed themselves into the Grand Lodge of Alberta and Innisfail Lodge No. 8 A.F. & A.M. became part of it.

Some of the early leaders were J.A. Simpson P.M., W.A.B. Richards P.M., J.A. Wilson P.D.D.G.M., H.M. Douglas P.M. and S.J. Curry P.M. A deep sense of gratitude is felt towards the early brethren who pioneered Freemasonry in this district.

The meetings were held in the Curry Bros. Hall until 1925 when this hall burned down. On Oct. 7th, 1926 the corner stone was laid for a new temple on Central Ave. The Masons in Innisfail celebrated their 75 Anniversary in July, 1969. The Masons of Innisfail have enjoyed many years of fellowship and their presence in the community has contributed to our way of life.

THE FOLLOWING WAS WRITTEN by Lena (Kirkham) McAvoy for Innisfail's Diamond Jubilee

There wasn't much to mark the place, where Innisfail stands today,

To those who in nineteen hundred, went there and decided to stay

Among those were my parents, who from Ontario came to reside,

They arrived in April of that year and stayed until they died.

They brought with them seven children, and later were born two more,

And I was the last of the family, in nineteen hundred and four.

So I, like Innisfail, am too now in my Sixtieth year
 And I felt a good way to mark it, is in what I'm recording here.

It was only a municipality, then, with Poplar Grove as it's station,

And this was the name it was known by, until it's incorporation.

George Bryan was station agent at the time and for many a day,

Norman Stiles was the post master, then Ed Dodd, When Stiles moved away.

West and Fawdry both had stores that served the public well,

Kemp was running the livery barn, and Lundys kept the hotel.

The latter had the very first car, that ever was seen on the street,

And to those who had a chance of a ride, considered they had a rare treat.

The Playle's had a little confection store and photos they also did take,
 Tom White purchased a bakery, and for the town-folk, good bread he did bake.
 What is known now as The Province, was the Free Lance paper then,
 S.P. Fream was the lawyer there, in those days away back when.
 His brother Ted had insurance and also sold real estate,
 Wilson kept the blacksmith shop, and I played with his daughter Kate.
 The physician then was Dr. George, with a family large had he,
 Brinton had the drug store that served this community.
 My father was a carpenter, and he went to work at this trade
 Two brothers followed the same kind of work and by this a living they made.
 They built for themselves a rooming house, and meals were served there too,
 With the help of most of the family, all the work they were able to do.
 Then, as the children grew older, and different choices were made,
 My father sold the business and continued the building trade.
 It was after this, one tragic night, the place was burned to the ground.
 And later in smouldering ruins, the remains of three bodies were found.
 I went to the red brick school house that has recently been torn down,
 And in it's place is erected, I've heard, one of the newest churches in town.
 I think I can almost remember, the name of each teacher I had
 And when Itta Smith died, I was in her class, and her pupils felt terribly sad.
 My father was councillor for many years, and as school trustee he was there,
 And not so very long ago, my brother "Fleet" was mayor.
 Of the few spectacular fires that I seem to remember so well,
 And the fever of great excitement as we heard the alarm by the bell.
 The Methodist Church was the first one, and all that was close round about,
 And the way that the wind was blowing that day, the town could have been wiped out.
 If it hadn't been for the fine fire brigade, like the one they have today,
 What might have been left there standing, there's no one could venture to say.
 The former Kemp's big livery barn, was burned one cold winter night,
 The old Alberta, and Royal hotels, were both a tremendous sight.
 Doc Lauder owned a very fine horse that won in many a race,

He was the town's veterinarian, also J.P. for this place.
 From the former Miss McDermott, a milliner, I learned to be,
 And had my own little shop for a while in the growing community.
 Our one and only child was born in the same house I was too,
 So no wonder that my thoughts go back as they so often do.
 H. McDermott, as I remember, had the first jewellery store,
 And if I only had time, I could tell of so many more.
 Many years have come and gone, and today its' a different sight,
 The town is a miniature city, still growing by day and by night.
 With a shopping section thats hard to beat, and many homes that are grand,
 With rich fertile farms all round about, and oil on some of the land.
 T'would take too long to tell of the rest, and those are only a start,
 That still live in the district, and helping to do their part.
 So, I'm sending my greetings to any I've known from my childhood up until now,
 It would have been nice to have met them again, and it makes me feel lonely somehow.
 For the place of my birth will always have many sweet memories for me,
 And though I'll be many miles away it is there my heart will be
 So "Good Luck" to dear old Innisfail on it's Book of History,
 And may the years that lie ahead, bring continued prosperity.

WILLIAM EDGAR by W.J. Edgar

William Edgar arrived in Innisfail June, 1907. He came to Alberta in 1890 at the age of 20 years and took a homestead at Priddis. He hailed from Dumfries, Scotland. In 1894, he married Bertha Hawkey, who was one of the first teachers at Red Deer Lake school. Women were pretty scarce in those days and he often said it was a case of marrying her or a squaw. She said he was so Scotch that she couldn't understand him and was always saying "yes" when she should have said "no". After being married, they went to the old log shack and it was a terribly cold night. They fired the old box heater so much that the stove pipe got red hot and the sod roof started to burn. Some honeymoon that was!

They had three of a family of four while living in the log shack. With other pioneers my Dad built the little log school and the little log Presbyterian church. He used to lead the singing at the church. There was no organ and he wasn't the best singer in the world. The hymn he liked best we had every Sunday being "What a Friend We Have in Jesus".

Calgary was the nearest town and so a trip was made there twice a year. This trip was made with the



Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Edgar on their wedding day.

old team and wagon and enough supplies would be got in groceries to last for six months.

He was also an ardent curler and he and three other Scots won the Grand Challenge at the first Calgary Bonspiel in 1899. Ranching was all the go then, they used to brand the cattle and turn them out in the spring and round them up in the fall (what they could find). He accompanied a train load of steers to Halifax and put them on the ship, and turned them over to buyers in Liverpool who butchered them. They netted \$35. each after expenses were paid. This did however give him an opportunity to get back home to Scotland. In 1905 the Gov't fenced the "Sarcee Indian Reserve" and away went the free range, so he sold the ranch in 1906 and took his family back to Scotland. They returned in April 1907 to Calgary. In June of that year he purchased a team of horses and a wagon and accompanied by his 10 yr. old son (Wilfred — me), and a nephew, Maxwell Edgar, headed north. After a few weeks he found a half section of land to buy — being seven miles west of Innisfail. This is now known as the Little Red Deer Hereford Farm. The family moved up in July. (Lillian May, Bertha Jean, and his wife Bertha). The place he bought had a log house and all the barns were of log. The only way to make a living was by milking cows and he and his son milked 25 by hand, fed the skim milk to the calves, and shipped the cream twice a week. The cream hauler used to drive across country and pick it up with his wagon and a couple of wooden barrels. It all went into the same barrel and was hauled into the Innisfail Creamery. In a few years he found a market in Calgary and so twice a week he would take it to town and put it on the C.P.R. to "Carlyles Dairy".

In 1908 the last member of the Wm Edgar family was born. She was Janet (Mrs. C.C. Robinson). All the members of the family went to the Little Red Deer School. Lillian went on to be a teacher and later married Bob Sinclair, son of another pioneer family. They have three children. One son William is now a judge in the Supreme Court of Canada.

Bertie went to University getting her degree in Household Ec. She married Dr. L.B. Thomson whose picture is in the Hall of Fame in Sask. for outstanding work in the development and preservation of water & soil erosion.

The only son Wilfred (me) married Mabel Campbell a daughter of another pioneer family. I started farming in 1920 and am still trying to carry on where my father left off.

My Mother was a charter member of the Little Red Deer Dorcas Society and she served on the school board for many years.

In 1932 William Edgar and his wife retired to Victoria, B.C. and now rest peacefully in Royal Oak Cemetery, but they will always be remembered for their courage and fortitude in pioneering this great part of Canada.

W.J. EDGAR

W.J. (Wilf) Edgar arrived in Innisfail in 1907 with his parents settling on a half section of land seven miles west of town in the Little Red Deer District. He was 10 years of age and this land is now nationally known as the Little Red Deer Hereford Farm.

He was born at Priddis, Alberta, 1897. His parents were pioneers in that section of the country having come from Scotland in 1890. In 1906 his Dad (Wm. Edgar), sold the ranch and took his family back to Scotland and in 1907 returned to Calgary and then to Innisfail where the farm has been in the Edgar name ever since.

W.J. Edgar received his education at the Little Red Deer School. He and his Dad had 25 cows to milk by hand each morning and night — their main source of income. In the winter cutting wood with the buck saw (trying to get enough ahead for the next summer) kept them out of mischief. However, it was a wonderful life and everybody was the same and had the same amount of money to spend. With eggs at 15c a doz., butter at 20c lb. and beef at 5c on the hoof nobody got too rich but were rich in friends.

In 1914 the first World War broke out and he spent 18 months overseas with the 21st R. Battalion at \$1.10 a day — and half of it was sent home for his return. This gave him enough to buy a new suit of clothes. On his return in 1919, he started farming for himself and purchased more land (which was nearly all brought into cultivation). The first ploughing he did was in 1908 with a walking plow and two horses. The plow is still in the family possession. In 1920 he started plowing in earnest and would plow 6 acres a day with eight horses on a breaking plow, 18" furrow. It was with 12 horses in 1922 on a 24" plow. He brought 1200 acres under cultivation that way. Much of the land had to be cleaned by hand, the poplar trees had to be pulled down with horses after cutting around the roots with an axe. The wood was sawed up with a power saw and some of it delivered to the L.R.D. school, cut, split and hauled with a wagon to the school for \$2.50 a cord.

In 1932 they purchased their first Registered Hereford cow and since that time, have built up one

of the worlds' famous Hereford Herds, many of which have found new homes in many countries of the world.

Mr. Edgar has become known as a world-wide Hereford Judge, having judged in England, South Africa, Australia, U.S.A. and Canada. He has taken an active part in the life of the community and the many associations that he has belonged to.

In 1949, he and his family won the "Master Farm Family" award for the Province of Alberta (the first one offered). He was a school trustee for 24 years and Reeve for 10 years. He is a member of the Innisfail Lions Club and District Governor of Lions International; a member of the Rotary Club, Past President of the Canadian Hereford Assn, and the Alberta Hereford Assn., was representative of the first World Hereford Assn, of which he was one of the organizers and has been honored by having his picture hung in the Hall of Fame Gallery in the Alberta Hereford Association office in Innisfail; a member of the Innisfail Branch of the Canadian Legion; a member of the Canadian Curling team that represented Canada in Scotland in 1950 (he has been an ardent curler throughout his life); a member of the Alberta Rifle Association and several times shot for the Alberta team in Toronto and in 1933 when the team won the Provincial team match in Ottawa they were winned and dined by the then, Prime Minister of Canada — R.B. Bennett.

In 1922, he married Mabel Campbell. Their first son (Bill) was born in 1923. Bill was a great help through the years. He married Rose Dresser and they started farming on their own. He has built up one of the most modern farms in Alberta. They have three children: Doug (a graduate from Olds' Agricultural College) is now farming on his own and working along with his Dad. This is the fourth generation of Edgars in Innisfail. Iris Jean was keen in Club work and represented Alberta at Toronto when she was 16 winning the judging award for Canada. She married Ed Noval and they have three children: Greg (taking law at U of A), Jim and Leslie still attending school in Innisfail. Robert graduated from University of Alberta in pharmacy. He was President of the Students' Union. In 1960 purchased a store in Westlock known as "Edgar Drug". In 1971 was Canadian President of the Pharmaceutical Assn. He married Eleanor Free and they have one son, Donald. George Edgar, third son, is a graduate of Olds Agricultural School, winning honors in Live Stock and field crops the year he graduated. He married Marjorie Penny and at the age of 21 years was taken into the partnership of W.J. Edgar & Son where he has done a great job of promoting and raising Herefords. He is President of Alberta Hereford Association 1972-73. They have 4 children: Peter, Wilfred Jay, Penny and Keith.

MAXWELL EDGAR by Raymond Edgar

Maxwell Edgar, my father, was born in Dumfries, Scotland in 1888. He received his education there.

He came out to Alberta in 1904 at the age of 16 years. He settled with his uncle, William Edgar, at

Priddis, Alberta where they ranched until 1907. He then accompanied William Edgar and his son Wilfred on a trip to Innisfail by wagon in search of a farm. They settled seven miles west of Innisfail on what is now known as the Little Red Deer Hereford Farm. He stayed here and worked for his uncle until 1913.

In 1913 he and Isaac Wright took up a ten dollar homestead and a three dollar an acre pre-emption in the Craigmyle district near Hanna. This gave him 320 acres of land which he started to put under cultivation with four horses and a walking plow.

He went into town one day and word had come that the World War I had been declared and men were wanted to enlist. He hopped on the train and told a neighbour to turn his horses out of the barn and away he went. He wrote to Wilf Edgar asking him to go and get his horses as he was off to war. Max was soon in Valcartier, Quebec on his way overseas.



Max Edgar on the right

The next winter he was sent to France and was badly wounded being shot through both legs (in the spring of 1915) and was invalided home the next June. He was the first soldier to be returned to Innisfail and the town went all out to welcome him home. The band was out and the station platform was crowded with people. A reception was held later and a gold watch was presented to him.

After his recovery, he purchased 320 acres in the Big Bend district. In 1920 he married Georgie Manuel who had come with her family from Newfoundland during the war. Mr. and Mrs. Maxwell Edgar raised five children: John the eldest, who passed away in 1969. His wife Irene (Olford) lives in Innisfail with their two children David and Heather. John had farmed in the Horse Shoe Lake area and later went into Real Estate and Insurance in Innisfail.

The only daughter, Mary, is married to George Heemeryck and they live in Red Deer. They have five children: Jackie, George, Kenneth, Barrie, and Marlene.

Raymond is married to Helen MacDonald and they still farm the home farm in the Big Bend area. They have five children: Darrell, Louise, Maxwell, Allister, and Kathie.

James is married to Livalle Lowen and they farm in the Little Red Deer district and have four children: Trudy, Robbin, Georgie, and Grant.

Norman is farming in the Tindastol district.

Maxwell Edgar was very active in the Royal Canadian Legion and held offices in the Innisfail Branch. He was made a life member of the Legion. He was a member of the Big Bend School Board, a councillor of the Municipal District of Poplar Grove and a trustee of the Innisfail Municipal Hospital.

Big Game Hunting in the fall was a much looked to event. Some of his early companions were Dr. Wagner, Jack Thomson, Bob Marcill, and Alan Bryan. He first went with horses on these adventures. It would take a couple of days. He always came home successful.

Soccer and curling were sports he participated in. He curled with Wm. Edgar, Wilf Edgar, and J.R. Miller. He enjoyed fishing, too.

Mother raised a lot of chickens and turkeys as well as looking after the household along with the motherly duties she had. She was a member of the Presbyterian Church and the Ladies' Auxillary of the Legion.

The children attended school at Big Bend and then took their High School in Innisfail.

Maxwell Edgar carried on mixed farming and will be remembered for his great sense of humor. He died in 1953 and his wife passed away in 1957. Both are interred in the Innisfail Cemetery.

HROBJARTUR EINARSON by Freda Olson

Hrobjartur Einarson was born in Iceland on Aug. 25, 1867. He married Helga Helgadotter born in Iceland on Aug. 29, 1890. He worked for the Great West Saddlery Co. in Calgary before coming to the Markerville area. His wife and three children came with him in 1902 to the Markerville area bringing two carloads of lumber which built a one-room house which later became the kitchen. He raised sheep and cattle on the homestead; he had a harness shop in Markerville for a time and he became an agent for the Wawanesa Insurance Co. — at one time he was honored as the oldest salesman at an Edmonton convention. He was chairman of the Tindastoll school board when it was built in March 1903 and was on the board for twenty-six years until retiring in 1929.

Their first neighbors were: Gunnar Johannson, Joseph Stephanson, Johann Bjornson, Chris Johannson, Peter Gislason, John Gislason, Siggeir Johannson, Amos Smith.

Two colorful characters of the early days were Dr. A.T. Turner and Dr. G.C. Wagner. They were well loved by all and always tried to answer every call no matter how long or bad the road or what the hour of the day, often getting stuck in either mud or snow and having to walk the rest of the way. Dr. Hank Wagner was a close friend of my father and they always went hunting in the same group every fall, with Dr. Wagner looking after everyone's ills as well as cooking.

The Waisman family lived on the old Charlie Alden place in the Tindastoll district. It was a very cold snowy winter. The father and oldest son left in the morning to the Medicine River for a load of wood and a tree fell on the father killing him. The boy got



Mr. and Mrs. Einarson in 1890's

home late with the father's body on top of the load. Weather was very bad and roads impassible, so they could not have the funeral until conditions changed. So for a month the body was kept frozen in an out-building. This lad and the rest of those children went to the Tindastoll school where I attended. This is one tragic happening I'll never forget and one brave family.

Helga Einarson died May 4, 1951 and Hrobjartur Einarson died May 1, 1953; both are buried at Tindastoll.

Children:

daughter Thorbjorg born Aug. 1891; died 1892.

Friman Julius born July 9, 1894. Died Dec. 6, 1902.

third child stillborn

Einar Thorberg (Beggi) born in Calgary June 29, 1896. Beggi married Aileen Albers on Feb. 28, 1944. They had four children: Terry, Patrick, Reed, Sandra. Beggi died of cancer on July 20, 1955 at Port Coquitlam, B.C.; the family are still living there. Beggi took over his Dad's position on the school board in 1929 until it closed in 1955.

Adalbjorg Svanfridur (Freda) born in Calgary July 5, 1899, married Wilhjalmur Kappel (Karl) Olson Nov. 10, 1928 in Markerville. Children: Ronnie (dec.), Helga, Doreen, Kenneth. I (Freda) have been a member of the Icelandic Ladies' Aid Vonin for many years. Vonin is the oldest active club in Alberta.

Friman Hrobjartur born Feb. 26, 1903 married Marjorie Edna Ramsay on May 19, 1934. Four children: Robert, Grace, Betty, Peggy. Friman took over the home place and others of the family are living on farms in the surrounding area. Friman retired to Innisfail. Gudbjorg Albina Adalheidur (Bina) born Apr. 29, 1905 married Lawrence Joseph Potter on Feb. 5, 1925. Children: Stanley, James, Raymond. Bina died June 9, 1964.

THE GISLE EIRIKSON STORY by Mrs. Geo. Fleming

Gisle Eirikson, my father, was born in Iceland in 1850. My mother, Anna Christine Einardson was born in Iceland in 1848. They were married in Iceland. There were six children:

Einer was born in Iceland. He was sixteen years older than I. He stayed in North Dakota and married

a school teacher named Violet. He died about 25 years ago, buried in N.D.

Margaret was born in Iceland. She was fourteen years older than I. She was married in North Dakota to Bjorn Bjornson. They came west to Markerville a couple of years before we did. She died when she was thirty-four in 1909, buried in Tindastol.

Hoseas was born in North Dakota. He was six years older than I. He never married or went with a girl. Hoseas died in 1962, buried in Tindastol cemetery.

Eirik was born in North Dakota. He was two years older than I. He married Groa Goodmanson at Markerville. They had two boys and a girl: Gisle married a Ukrainian girl named Rose. They farmed at Markerville. Munde married a girl named Margaret from Manitoba or Sask. during the war. They farm at Markerville. Flora is a nurse. She married Dave Fisher. They live in Calgary. Eirik died in 1963, buried in Tindastol cemetery.

Thruda (that's me) was born in North Dakota in 1888. I married three times. I married Thomas Rafnson. We had four children: Oscar Rafnson is married and lives in Creston, B.C. Gisle Rafnson lives in Vancouver. He is not married. Albert Rafnson was killed by a caterpillar tractor at Swan Hills about ten years ago. Anna Rafnson married Woodrow Holmes. They live at Raven. They have three boys. Thomas Rafnson died in 1942. I married Gus Weidman in 1945 and we lived in Edmonton. We moved to Innisfail in 1960. He died in 1965. I married George Fleming. We live in Innisfail. We have applied to get in to the Autumn Glen Lodge and hope to go there soon.

Runa was born in Markerville. She married Seftor Baldwin and they lived in the U.S.A. They had one daughter, Reah May. Runa died in 1955, buried in Idaho.

When the family came to Markerville in 1891, we stayed with my sister Margaret until Dad built a log house for us. I can remember when we moved into it; I was four or five and my niece Annie was four years younger. I played with her while my sister Margaret helped Mama. Our parents had to go by horse and wagon to Calgary to shop those first years. My



Mr. and Mrs. Eirikson and family in 1890's

brothers and I stayed with my sister while they were away and went home to feed the chickens and gather the eggs. Daddy wanted to live close to the river so we could have fish. Lots of times we had just porridge for supper, but we never went hungry. Later we traded in Innisfail and then in Markerville. We drove our sheep for sale into Innisfail once a year. I used to be a sheep herder. There were no fences then but the pasture was near the house. In July it was hot. The sheep were sleeping in the shade of the willows. I thought I would go home for a while. Mama asked me where the sheep were. They had skiddoed. They went north; Daddy and my brother-in-law took horses and it took them three days to find them. One of the sheep got hurt and Mrs. Christianson sewed her up. I didn't get heck for it but after that I stayed with the sheep. We never had a licking. Our parents talked to us and told us what was what.

A log cabin school was built at Hola when I was eighteen. I went three months each year for four years. The rest of the time I had to help Mama. Mr. Disher was a teacher at Hola. He played a flute and at recess had us march around the school yard. At school we played Blind Man's Buff, In-and-out the Windows, Anti-over, etc.

I can remember Mr. Currie and Mr. West at Innisfail.

Gisle Eirikson died in 1918 at age 68 and Anna Eirikson died in 1923. They are buried in Tindastol cemetery.

THE G. W. ELLIS FAMILY by Mrs. George Inglis

George Waylat Ellis, a barrister by profession, came to Innisfail (Poplar Grove) from England in 1894. Accompanying him were his wife Caroline, three daughters, Cicely, Vivien and Barbara and one son Waylat (Waylie). This young son was born in 1893 and took his first steps on board the boat as they journeyed over the sea. Another son, Lawford was born two years later.

They took up land 12 miles straight east of Innisfail (Sec. 21,35,26 W4) also the three quarters directly north of section 21. On this they had a house built and named it "The Langlands". The house was built by Mr. Tom Dobson. It was made of bricks from Pipers' brick yard in Red Deer. It was quite a task hauling them as the big bush part of the road from Innisfail was laid across with small trees in many places to bridge low places and mud holes.

The Ellis family were told to be careful and not put too many windows in for fear of making the house too cold. So, only one big window was placed in each room. Later when an addition was built four large windows were put in one room — so you can see how much they missed the sunshine and light at first.

Early neighbors in those days were Bakers, Halls Coulthwaites, Sparks, Caldwells, Jully Nash, and further away the Bamfields and Velges. Mr. Velge used to raise fighting cocks, later on Waylie and Lawford used to have fun there watching the fights and enjoying the good meals that were at Velges.

People from the east used to stop the night at 'The Langlands' as it was a half way point in traveling to



"The Langlands", home of G. W. Ellis and family. Later Waylie and Sadie lived here and raised their family.

and from Innisfail, no doubt to buy at G.W. Wests' store.

The Ellis children were sent to England part of the year to school as there were no schools near. During the summers the boys played cricket at the picnics of those early days.

When war came (1914) Lawford enlisted and was killed his first day in the trenches. Waylie stayed home to farm until 1916. He then enlisted and trained at Camp Willows, Victoria, B.C. Going overseas he was transferred to the 29th Canadian Mounted Rifles. (They never did use any horses). Waylie saw action at the front and was wounded three times, after being shot in the hip he was lying in No Man's Land for a time. A snipers' bullet passed between the skin and vertebrae at the back of his neck. He was picked up by stretcher bearers. The bullet couldn't be removed from the hip but he recovered to walk without a limp. He also recovered from a sabre wound in the knee. Waylie was awarded the Military Medal. When war was over he went into Germany with the army of occupation entering that country at Bonn. He returned to Canada in 1920.

He married Miss Sadie Conner and went to live west of Huxley on a soldier settlement farm where two daughters were born — Cicely and Doris. In 1926 they came to live on the Ellis farm again and two more children were born — Fay and Sydney. Mr. Ellis Sr. had sold the farm and he and Mrs. Ellis had gone to live at the Coast. Cicely Ellis died in Calgary. Vivien and Barbara were living at the coast. (Mrs. T. Noble & Mrs. C. Gow, respectively). Mr. Ellis got the farm back again after selling and he came to live with Waylie and Sadie on the Langlands. He stayed there for nine years. He then went to England and passed away while there in 1935.

Our neighbors then were Bakers, Henry Holmes, Sherwoods, Marshalls, Bradleys, Hubert Oyler (who used to come for a card game every Sunday evening), Goldstroms, Langevins, Pomeroy's, Parcels, Bryants, Thurstons, Sparks, Blakes, Kerns, Baumgardts, McMullens and Whealons.

Picnics, ballgames, concerts and auction bridge were part of our fun those days. We also wanted to play tennis but there was no money for equipment. We did have the necessary piece of lawn so we put a steer in to fatten. He grew quite large and fat during the winter. In spring we sold him and he brought \$16.00. It was enough for a net, balls and racquets.

We played and played. Friends and neighbors joined us. Some Sundays we would lay the supper table two or three times, contributions of food came along and there was much help in clearing up.

One day, in the spring of 1937, we heard a big noise coming from the sky. We ran to look and saw an aeroplane. It circled our farm once and then landed in the field west of the barn. The pilot and lone occupant was Waylies' nephew Jack Noble, from the coast. He had flown a passenger up north and had come to visit us unannounced. A plane in those days brought a lot of excitement. Neighbors came to look at it and after a picture was taken and a few days visit with us Jack took off again from the sloping field east of the house.

After finishing West Lynne school Cicely went to High School at Big Valley and became a school teacher. She married Roy Howard, son of an old timer of the district. They lived at Innisfail and Coleman, Alberta and have one son Allan (m. Linda Gerrard). Allan and Linda have 2 children, Jody Lynne and Jaycee Lee.

Doris lived with us and at Red Deer until she passed away in 1966.

Fay went to Red Deer dormitory and became a stenographer. She married Burns Chisholm and lives in Virden, Man. They have 2 children: Randy and Cheryl.



Doris, Cicely, Waylie, Sadie, Sydney and Fay Ellis

Sydney went to Calder high School after finishing at West Lynne. He went to work, after a trip to the coast, at Burnetts' Plumbing in Red Deer. He bought into this business after working there for some time. He is one of three partners at present who own it and is president of the firm. He married Laverne Donkin and they have three children: Wendy, Richard and Ronald. Laverne passed away in 1971.

Waylie and Sadie lived at the farm until three quarters were sold. They built a house on the section and lived there for 8 yrs., until Waylie passed away in 1953. He is buried in Innisfail.

Sadie and Doris went to Red Deer to live. Later Sadie married George Inglis. They lived on his Antler Hill farm for a time, but are now retired and live in Red Deer.

WILLIAM CARL EMRICH by Charles Emrich

My mother's father, Ed Montney, was our first to come to the Summitt-Grahamston district in 1907. My Dad, William (Bill) Carl Emrich, came to the district in October of 1907. He came from Steele, North Dakota, where his farm had been dried out. He was born Jan. 26, 1880 in Ottawa, Illinois, U.S.A. His wife Ada, son Charlie (4 yrs. old) and daughter Joyce (8 mos.) came with him.

He brought with him cows, chickens, a sow, geese, and horses. He settled on the present Bill Emrich place and hauled lumber from Innisfail for the house and to build other buildings. His first house was much like a granary, (and is still standing). They finished a house that had been started and this is still in use by Charle's son, Bill. The pump house on the farm now was the old barn until they built the new barn. They had just a trail through the bush to the house and had to clear a place to put the lumber. Their land was bushed and broke up with four horses and a walking plow. Often they would disturb a hornet's nest and the horses would run away.

George Cameron's father was the closest neighbor. I, Charlie, am now residing on the old Cameron place. In December 11, 1925, my father purchased a quarter from Joseph Cousins for \$1000.

When we were young we had card parties with the neighbors and went by team and sleigh to the odd dance. I remember George Bryan, the station agent, was quite a dancer.

We milked cows and sold cream in Innisfail; also sold eggs; and worked taxes out with the team and scraper on road work.

We went to school at Grahamston. Schoolmates were Carrs, Camerons, Schrodgers, Hayes; and teachers Helen MacDiarmid, Maggie Burns and Jessie Brown.

Bill Emrich married Ada Jane Montney June 4, 1903. She was born August 15, 1879 in Kanton, Kansas. They had three children:

Charles Edwin — born May 4, 1904 Steele, N.D.; married Lillian Violet Moore Ap.3, 1926.

Joyce Wilma — born Jan. 31, 1908 in Steel, N.D. married Gordon Russell Bittorf; one daughter, Betty.



Charlie, Ralph, and Joyce Emrich.

Ralph William — born July 20, 1912 in Red Deer; married Vivian Caroline Aspinall; 4 children: Helen, Nina (Bonnie), Ralph (Bud), Patrick.

William Carl Emrich died Jan. 26, 1949 and his wife Ada on June 29, 1949. Both are buried in the Inglewood Cemetery, Los Angeles, California.

Children of Charles Edwin Emrich:

Verna — married Charles Hyatt. They have four children: Linda, Sally, Donelda, David. They live at Maderia Park, B.C.

Ruth — married Chris Thomsen in the U.S.A. She is a teacher. They have two boys: Richard and Carl; and live at Lancaster, California.

Norma — an R.N.; married Doug Morris; they have five children: Judy, Greg, Jo-Ann, Susan, and Jack and live at Innisfail.

Joan — married Allan Haderer; they have twin boys Scot and Richard and live in Calgary.

William (Bill) — married Doreen Bryant. They have two children, Kathleen and Philson. They reside on the original Emrich place at Innisfail.

Ed Emrich — married Irene Boyd. They have one child, Kerry. He works with AGT and lives in Calgary.

NELS ENGESETH by Astrid Dundas

Mr. and Mrs. Engeseth and family of three children left Norway emigrating to Duluth; a year later, 1899, they joined with my aunt and uncle — Mr. & Mrs. Johnson; Mr. & Mrs. Thompson and Mr. & Mrs. Anderson and homesteaded in the Markerville district. In Norway, Mr. Engeseth had been a stone mason and also a deep sea diver working in shipyards repairing boats underwater.

Children: Dorothy; Astrid (born 1893; married Sandy Dundas; left Innisfail in 1916 and now living in Vancouver.); John; Harold; Gudrun (Sagen), deceased; and Sverre Joe, deceased. They attended Hola school.

THE ENNIS STORY by Lila Bunch & Alberta Balmer

David Ennis was born about 1838 in the County Cork, Ireland. He came to Canada settling at Lanark Co., Ontario. He married the former Matilda Campbell who was born in 1838 in Ontario.

The Ennis' came to Innisfail in 1897 with a family of thirty four, travelling in one coach. Jim and Kate Layden and Tildy were also on the train. The Ennis family consisted of their eight children (all born in Ontario), grandchildren and one son-in-law, William Scott. Dave Ennis had farmed in Ontario and came west to homestead. He took up land in the Innisfail district. Some of the sons stayed in Calgary to work before coming north to Innisfail.

The children were: David Ellis: b. 1860, unmarried, farmed east of Innisfail: John James: b. 1861, married Jane Robinson. They farmed at Huxley for many years before moving to Innisfail: Isabelle: b. 1862, married William Scott. They lived at Innisfail and had three sons, Lorne, Dave and Bud. Sarah Jane: b. 1864, married John Ferguson. They lived in Innisfail and had 7 children (See Ferguson story). William James: b. 1865. Thomas H.: b. 1866,



Sam and Sadie Ennis

he remained single and farmed east of Innisfail. Rachel: b. 1867, married Lemual Holden (see Holden Story). Samuel b. 1868, married Sadie Potter. They had 7 children. Sadie was the first bride in the Calder District (April 1, 1903) Sam worked at the Eau Claire Sawmill in Calgary camping at Prince's Island. He then worked for Fred Archer at Innisfail. He homesteaded at Spruce Coulee, and farmed at Raven. He retired to Innisfail and passed away in 1950. Children born to Sam and Sadie Ennis were: Myrtle (dec), who married Russell Smith (See A, Smith Story), Beatrice (Mrs. Arthur Channell (They lived out west and he became a fine carpenter in Calgary later: Lila (Mrs. Ellis Bunch) still resides in Innisfail and they have 6 children Walter, Leslie, Dorothy, Allan, Gordon, and Beverly: Ella (Mrs. Lem Downes) farmed at Elnora: Mabel (Mrs. Robert Jorden), residing at Rimbey: Samuel, who married Margaret Johnson and farm west of Innisfail and Kay (Mrs. Thorlad Rasmusson resides in Calgary.

In Ontario the family were moving from one district to another when Matilda Ennis missed Willy at the railroad station. It was found out that David had given his son, William James, to Henry Duffield, a lawyer. It was rumored he had moved to Edmonton, but was never found by his family.

SNOWSTORM

The May 1919 snowstorm that caused many hardships; cattle throughout the country were lost by wandering ahead of the storm, drowning in creeks, mired in snowdrifts and unable to get feed.



Schaefer boys standing on top of a drift as high as their house.



Drift at Robert Smith's.



Guards had to shovel away the drifts to let their cows out of the barn.

Samuel Harbison's body was found by a half-breed. He was lost in a blizzard on Sept. 27 1900. Found in a small clump of brush wrapped in his saddle and other equipment.

OTTO R. FAUGHT FAMILY by Inez McGillivray

Children: Wilbert, Ray, Clara, Inez, Mary, Doris and Dorothy (Twins), Rebekah and Keith.

In the spring of 1917 Otto Faught and his wife, Lena, with their family of two sons and six daughters left their home on an Illinois farm to begin a new life in Alberta. In the fall of 1918, a third son, Keith was born.

During a visit to the Wickisers of Huxley in late 1916, Otto had chosen a farm on which to settle his large family. He bought the north half of 26-35-25-W4 which lies about twenty miles east of Innisfail.

Otto and Ray travelled from Illinois in the freight cars containing their household furniture, farm machinery and livestock. Lena, with Wilbert, Clara, Inez, Mary, Doris, Dorothy and Rebekah came by passenger train and arrived in Huxley some days earlier than Otto and Ray. They stayed with Wickisers a few weeks while Otto and the boys hauled the goods out to the farm.

Then on a memorable day in April the family moved to their new home. This was quite an ad-

venture to all as they were used to living in a well-settled community. An eighteen mile trip by wagon over a rough prairie trail with few houses and fewer fences was something new.

The following years were filled with plenty of hard work for all, but there was also time for pleasure. Young and old gathered at the Faught farm on Sundays for a ball game in summer or for sleighing or skating in winter. The whole family attended the school house parties, dances and picnics.

Wilbert married Effie Hogg. They have one son, Francis in Chicago, and three daughters: Lenora in Prince Rupert B.C.; Jean and Dayle in Camrose. At present Wilbert and Effie live in Red Deer.

Ray served in the Canadian Air Force during World War 11. His first wife, Isabel Nisbet Thomas, died in 1960. Ray now lives in Victoria, B.C. with his wife, Bonnie.

Clara and her husband Carl Ginther live on their farm west of Elnora. They have three sons: Max of Red Deer, Keith on the home farm, Paul in Terrace, B.C. and daughter Marlene in Mackenzie, B.C.

Inez married Whitney Stevenson of Pine Lake. They had three sons: Kenneth in Singapore, Lloyd in Delburne, David in Red Deer and a daughter Shirley in Red Deer. Whitney died in 1965. Inez is now the wife of Charlie McGillivray of Olds.

Mary lived with her husband, Harold Whitaker, on their farm north west of Huxley until Harold's death in 1970. She now lives in Mission City B.C. in the winter months and on her farm in the summer. Mary and Harold had three sons, John, who died in infancy Ronald who died in 1966 and Joe who lives in Mission City B.C.

Doris was married to Charles McGillivray of Innisfail. They lived on their farm ten miles east of Innisfail for some years. Then after living in Innisfail and several other towns in Alberta and B.C., they settled in Olds in 1956 where Doris died in 1970. They have one son, Bill who lives in Innisfail.

Dorothy married Dick Dowell of Trochu. They lived on a farm for some years, then moved to Vancouver B.C. where Dorothy died in 1937.

Rebekah married Alfred DeMan of Morrin. They have two children, Blair and Loretta both in Calgary. Rebekah and Alfred lived in Morrin for several years, and eventually to Leslieville where they now reside.

Keith married Verna McComb of Huxley. They lived on the old Faught farm until 1948 when they moved to Prince Rupert B.C. They now live in Duncan B.C. Keith and Verna have two daughters, Loree in Vancouver, Carrol in Cowichan and three sons, Kenneth, Brian and Ray in Duncan.

Otto in his ninety sixth year continues to enjoy excellent health. He works every day at his hobby of making tables and lamps and goes to the Senior Citizen's Center nearly every afternoon for bridge or crib.

At this writing, he has just returned with his daughter Mary Whitaker, from a plane trip to Illinois.

SIMON W. FEAD by Leone Fead

Simon W. Fead, his wife Elizabeth (Chambers) and children Clara and Norman, left Shelburne, Ontario, in the late fall of 1898. The train from Toronto consisted of the old tourist cars, with the slatted seats, and a stove at one end to supply heat. A blizzard raging across the prairies caused them to be a day late arriving at Winnipeg. When they stopped at Winnipeg, the train froze to the tracks and the snow drifted in around it so badly it required the help of three engines to get it moving again. By the time they reached Calgary, they were days late, and their supply of food badly exhausted. But here there was a welcome chinook blowing and they were soon on their way west with another engine added to take them through the mountains. Again they were held up, this time with snowslides, where two trains, a freight and a passenger, were trapped. Finally the tracks were cleared, the other trains continued on their way, and they were able to leave the siding and very slowly proceed westward, eventually reaching Vancouver. Simon did not like the city or the damp climate, and decided to settle in Alberta, after receiving a letter from a cousin, John Buckham, asking him to meet him in Calgary and look for land together. In May 1899, he bought a farm in the Grahamston district, and John purchased the quarter directly to the south. His family arrived on June 23rd. Simon had been a farmer in Ontario, and farmed here until retiring in 1921 when he moved to Innisfail, and a few years later to Penticton.

There was a log house on the farm with two bedrooms up and two down, a big living room and a kitchen. In winter sometimes the snow used to drift into the upstairs rooms through the chinks, but on the whole it was quite comfortable, and considered a good house at that time. In the first years, when there was little money and coal oil was hard to get, they made candles with tallow to eke out the oil. The first crop was taken off with a sickle, or cradled, as the ground was too wet for machinery. This was a very hard way to harvest, with the sheaves having to be bound by hand with some of the straw, and ten acres seemed a big field.



Simon Fead house, Christmas 1899. L. to R.: Tom Buckham, Mrs. S. Fead, Clara Fead, Simon Fead, Norman Fead, Mrs. John Buckham, John Buckham, Mrs. Fred Wade, Fred Wade, Alex Buckham.



Mr. and Mrs. S. W. Fead and family: back row: Clara and Norman; front row: Simon, baby, Archie, Elizabeth.

John Buckham married Mary Jane Scott (an aunt of Doug Scott) in 1899. He died in 1905 and in 1914 Mrs. Buckham and her daughter Jean, then fourteen, returned to Ontario. Jean died on Jan. 18, 1973.

John's brother Tom also homesteaded in the Grahamston district. He was married to Margaret Dodd, sister of Ed Dodd. At one time he was a co-owner of the old Royal Hotel, Innisfail; his partner was Harbison. Billy Peters lived on the quarter south of John Buckham. He sold the farm about 1905 to H. Mayo. Nathan Brown lived north of S. Fead. There were two girls and four boys. In 1906 he sold to McCaw's from Kansas, and moved to Edmonton. Clara and Norman Fead both attended the Grahamston school which was built in 1901. Teachers: Mrs. Wade, Mr. Baycroft, Miss McLeod, Miss Stevens. In 1899 school was held for a few months in a little log building on the Wade place with Mrs. Martin Nisbet, teacher. In winter they went to Aberdeen School. For the next two years before the Grahamston school was finished, school was held in a vacant house on the Barclay quarter, just west of D. Burns, now owned by Roy Carr. Simon Fead, when selling cattle, dealt with Bill Lundy, the butcher, and his man, Bob Farrant. Clara Fead married George Calder in 1912; she died in 1917. Children Cecilia & Bill. Norman Fead married Leone MacDiarmid in 1915. Children: Lawrence and Bill. Norman died November 8, 1971. Archie Fead married Helen Armstrong in 1931. Children: Kenneth and Carole. Simon Fead died in Penticton in 1931; Elizabeth Fead in March, 1946.

THE FERGUSON STORY by Mrs. Elsie Bennett

Mr. J.E. Ferguson was born in Perth, Ontario and his wife the former Harriet Hibbert was born in Ordock, North Dakota. They farmed in North Dakota for some years, Mr. Ferguson having gone to that State as a young man.

They came to Innisfail in 1902 on a freight train with a load of stock, machinery and household goods. It was Mr. B. Hibbert Sr. who came with them. The two men took up homesteads about 16 miles south east of Innisfail in the Knee Hill Valley district.

Mr. Ferguson worked as a foreman for 30 years on road construction. He walked many miles a day getting men out to work. At this time all work was done with horses and many of the taxes were paid in this manner.

The Ferguson family was 4 daughters: Lily (Mrs. Tom Kirkham), Elsie (Mrs. J. Bennett), Vina (Mrs. Henry Schneider), Dorothy (Mrs. J. McBride). There were 5 sons: Archie, William, Edgar, John and Glenn. Fred is deceased.

Mr. & Mrs. J.E. Ferguson moved into Innisfail to retire. They were able to celebrate their Golden Wedding in Feb. of 1951, then their Diamond Wedding in 1961 in Innisfail.

Mr. Ferguson died Nov. 4, 1961 and Mrs. Ferguson died Dec. 7, 1969. Burial was in the Innisfail Cemetery.

FERGUSON — DALLAS STORY by Jack Dallas

My grandfather, John Ferguson was born July 23, 1848 in Dalhousie, Lanark County, Ontario. He married the former Sarah Jane Ennis January 10, 1883. (see Ennis Story).

Sarah Jane Ferguson came to Innisfail in 1897 with her parents as John remained in Ontario with his mother until she died. When Mrs. Ferguson and the children got to Calgary they discovered they would have to wait some days for the next train north and so stayed in the Immigration Building. When they arrived in Innisfail, there was no accomodation for her and the children so they ended up in a lean-to, five miles out of town.

John Ferguson had farmed in Ontario. When he arrived in Innisfail he first went to work at the brick yards. In the winter he cut and hauled lumber. He built his first home off the wood on his homestead of three acres. He traded wood or sold it for the necessities of life.

The children were born in Ontario and were schooled in Innisfail. The Principal was Bob Archer. They all resided in Innisfail until married or deceased as shown below:

Matilda Florence (Tilley): b. Oct. 20, 1884, married Stanley MacGillivray. They resided in Dallas, Texas until their passing. They had one son Gordon who lives at Dallas, Texas.

Mary Ann (Minnie): born July 24, 1887, married Thomas Turnbull Dallas. He died in Innisfail in 1916 and she died in Calgary in 1963.

Nettie Ferren: born Nov. 5, 1889, married Gus Nyman (dec 1925) She is still living in Calgary. There were no children.

Edward Clyde — born April 28, 1891, never married, deceased in Innisfail in 1927.

Rachel Desdemonia: b. June 3, 1893, married Edgar Wait (both dec and buried in Calgary) and had one son (Douglas) dec.

Elizabeth Bella: b. Dec. 10, 1896, deceased in Innisfail at 6 years old.

Emily Jane (Emma): b. Aug. 22, 1898, married Fred Haskins. (presumed dead) She died in Calgary. They have two daughters, Alberta Balmer in Olds and Dalphine Tritter, in Calgary.

Minnie and Tom Dallas, my parents raised four children: Dorothy Pearl, Kenneth Alexander, John Austin and Gregor Stanley.

Dorothy worked as secretary for the Canadian Western Natural Gas Co., in Calgary prior to her marriage to Arthur Hodgins. They have one son Ralph, who resides in Calgary. Both his parents are deceased.

Ken married Pearl Richardson of Bowden. (both deceased). Ken worked for Jenkins' Groceteria in Innisfail, Lyle Hall, the M.D. of Poplar Grove and Jensen's Garage. They have 3 children; who were raised and schooled in Innisfail: Marie (Mrs. David Bradshaw), resides on their farm in the Innisfail district. They have three children: Rodney, Dallas and Gordon. Charles who married Rosalie Parkin. They reside in Innisfail where Charles is in the Machinery business. They have 4 children: Calvin, Bradley, Gail and Shelley. Beverly Ann (Mrs. Jack Finlay) resides in Red Deer. Beverly is a pharmacist with Bishop Drugs.



Back row: Minnie, Mrs. Ferguson, Nettie; front row: Rachel and Emma.

Jack married Reuberta Smith (dec) and they have two daughters: Donna Lee (Mrs. Donald MacDonald) residing on a farm in Lacombe (they have 2 sons). Jacqueline Ann (Mrs. Roy Sartison) resides in Calgary and they have one son. Jack remarried to Freda Lovet and they reside in Calgary where Jack is a moving consultant with Hill Security Movers. When in Innisfail, Jack and Bud Kirkham looked after the skating rink. Jack rode horses for H. J. Percy and was in the Canadian Army until he retired.

Greg married Lindy Urch. They have one son, Stanley who is residing in Calgary. Greg in Innisfail worked at Kenny's Garage later going to Calgary working for Freeman & Wilson. He had a service station of his own and tow-trucks. He was in the Army in W.W.11. He passed away in Calgary and is buried there. His wife is remarried and resides in Calgary.

Minnie Dallas was left a widow with small children and was a very ambitious hard working little lady. She cooked at the Alberta Hotel, had a restaurant, boarders, and road gangs she fed. When Jack's wife died, she went to keep house for him in Calgary and look after his daughters. She passed away in Calgary (1963), Thomas Dallas had passed away in 1916 and is interred in the Innisfail Cemetery.

GEORGE ROBERT FISHER by Lillian Lalor

George Robert Fisher was born near Barrie, Ontario, October 9, 1870. He married Myrtle Leila Dickout in Kagawong in Dec. 1903. She was born at Kagawong, Manitoulin Island, Ontario on Jan. 28, 1886.

In 1905 a group of Manitoulin Islanders, George and Myrtle and small daughter Ruth among them, decided to head west to Alberta. They all took up homesteads near Iron Springs on the bald headed prairie about thirty-five miles north of Lethbridge.

It was very dry on the prairies at that time; year after year there were no crops. Nothing but Russian Thistle or 'Tumbleweed' would grow, it seemed. The wind never stopped, and the dust storms were terrible. Water was very scarce in some areas; a few farms had good wells but others had to build cisterns and haul water to fill them.

In the summer of 1919, the Fisher family (which had increased to seven — two boys and five girls) decided to pull up stakes and head for greener pastures. Innisfail was our destination. We loaded up a couple of wagons with bedding, clothes and eats, the old 'Home Comfort Range', and the family; hitched up the horses, and were on our way. Our cousin, Harry Dickout, came with us and drove one of the teams. It was a long slow trip taking two weeks; we arrived September 2, 1919.

The first winter was really rough, as Dad had to build a house out of logs and make some kind of shelter for the stock. He got blood poisoning in his hand and had to make many trips in to the doctor, so it was a slow job. The snow came early in the middle of October and the house was not nearly finished. However, we did have a roof over our heads before the severe weather came and we had lots of wood to burn as the farm was solid bush. It was hard making a living in those days. We sold many loads of wood, cutting it with a cross-cut saw and splitting it, then hauling it to town. Our mother and we older ones all helped with this and later on Dad got an engine and a 'buzz' saw which made it much easier. Dad stooked grain, helped thresh, and sawed wood for the neighbors — in fact anything to bring in a few dollars — and gradually got a few acres cleared at home which put into crop.

When spring came we kids thought it was wonderful to see so many birds and trees, and so many lovely flowers to pick — Tiger Lilies, Shooting Stars, Indian Moccasins, and lots of violets down by the spring.

Some of the first neighbors, all farming in the district, were the Lemuel Holdens, Joe Plasters, Pete Triomphes, Fred Hobbs, Tams, and Malcolms. We

went to the Aberdeen School which was three and a quarter miles from our home. We walked at first, then later rode horseback. I well remember the frozen sandwiches at noon, and how cold the school was in the mornings. We'd all gather round the stove till it warmed up a bit. There were always forty or more pupils in grades one to eight. When we started to Aberdeen our first teacher was Anna Smith; others I remember were Miss Boyd, Ruby Lockerby and Katie Fead.

Some of our schoolmates were the Biswangers, Prices, Laings, Malcolms, McLeans, Millers, Wades, Durhams, Bill Lalor, Dick Moffat, Charlie McGillivray, and Eddie Hutton.

Some of the early families I remember: Archibalds, Sivyers, Hoveys, Biltons, Perries, Scarfes, Springays, Esgates, Durhams, Centers, Kersteins, Giolmas, and Bert Fry. My folks always dealt at G.W. Wests' in Innisfail and it was a great meeting place for the neighbors.

As we kids got older we used to go to house parties, where we had music and dancing. Later on a Club was formed at Aberdeen which was called 'The Literary Society' and in the winter, dances, box socials, pie socials, and many concerts were held at the school. The teacher always put on a real good Christmas concert. These functions were all very well attended. Church and Sunday School were also held in the school.



Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Fisher

In summer we went to ball games and picnics — the big event of the year was the Aberdeen Picnic and dance. We tried to go to Horseshoe Lake and Mud Lake at least once during the summer. In those days Mud Lake had a pier and a couple of old boats.

There were ten children in the Fisher family:

Ruth married Bill Lalor; they have two daughters, Shirley (Bilton) and Mary (Rehman) and one son James.

Lillian married Charles Lalor (deceased Jan. 27, 1969); they have one daughter Muriel (Hileman) and three sons — Marvin (Bud), Wayne and George.

Edith married Arthur Laing — (deceased April 20, 1957); they have two sons, Delbert (John) and Frank; and one daughter Allison (Pruden).

Coralie married Norman Hagg; they have one daughter Lynne (Thiessen) and two sons Gary and Glen.

Myrtle married Syd Quartly; they have one son Darrold and two daughters Jill (Jiuti) and Heather (Goddard).

Florence married Stewart Black; they have one son Richard and two daughters Denise and Kelly.

Bernice married Frank Boon; they have two sons, Bob and Randy and three daughters, Trudy (Quartly), Brenda and Patti Louise.

Morley, James and Gilbert never married. Gilbert, Florence and Bernice were all born at Innisfail.

George Robert Fisher passed away November 10, 1943. Morley Percival Fisher passed away March 24, 1966. They are buried in the Innisfail Cemetery.

Mrs. Myrtle Fisher still lives east of town on the farm with her son Jim. One daughter lives in Red Deer; all other members of the family live in or near Innisfail.

REV. PETER FISHER by Bill Calder

Peter Fisher was born in Rothesay, Scotland. He became a Presbyterian minister and was posted to Canada. His first wife was Susie Hall of Harbor Grave, Nfld. His second wife was Katherine Calder, sister of George Calder, from Brussels, Ontario. He was posted from Davidson, Saskatchewan to Innisfail in June 1917. Early families that were friends of the Fishers were: Geo. Calders, Simon Feads, John Browns, David Sinclairs and Simpsons.

One time Peter's horse was lame and George Calder lent him a wild thoroughbred to drive to his church in Little Red Deer School. Being a scholar and not a horseman, he had much difficulty in getting the horse hitched to the buggy, but finally managed and took off. When he got to the school, some of the farmers in the congregation who were waiting anxiously for him to arrive met him and his brother-in-law, George Calder, rushed forward and grabbed the horses bridle exclaiming, "There is surely a Providence who takes care of fools and ministers because you have arrived here without the bit being in the horse's mouth!"

Children: Margaret — Mrs. John Ross, Olds; and Ann — Miss Ann C. Fisher, Calgary. Peter Fisher died Aug. 11, 1948; Katherine (Calder) Fisher died May 4, 1929; both buried in Innisfail.

FLEISCHMAN FAMILY by William R. Sloan

Mr. Hans Fleischman who farmed on the Raven River from 1905 until retiring to Vancouver was born at Hagenhausen, Nuerhberg, Germany on March 28, 1883.

Mr. Fleischman came to Canada in 1904 and worked on farms near Innisfail. The next year he married Anna Muscat and they took up a homestead on the Raven.

They raised a large family. There were eight boys and two girls. One boy died as an infant. George, the oldest son was killed in 1932. Helen, Mrs. Fred Escher, died in 1968. Rudolph, Bill and Karl live in Calgary. John lives in High River. Walter lives in Kamloops, B.C. Dora, Mrs. William Sloan, lives at Dickson.

The first year on the homestead Mr. Fleischman cut rails and fenced his land. Times were hard when

the children were small but they managed to get along without buying too much.

Mr. Fleischman served on the Raven School Board several times. Matthew Halton the news correspondent, was hired as the teacher one year.

Mr. and Mrs. Fleischman returned to Calgary to live, but both passed away soon after returning.

HEZKIA STEWART FLINN by Mrs. Sarah Hobbs

My father, Hezkia Flinn, known as Kia, arrived in Innisfail from Ontario in 1908. He was of Irish decent and my mother was the former Liza Jane Douglas of Ontario. There was no land in Ontario and it seemed there was no future in staying there, so Alberta was their destination.

In 1907 Mother, Margaret, Sarah, Clesta and John came with an Aunt to Edmonton. We all stayed there until 1908. Dad came with the settlers effects with older son William in March, 1908. He had three horses and 3 or 4 cows. Dad first came to Edmonton, he didn't like it and didn't even unload. Instead, he came to Innisfail where his brother, William, was at Mayton. We lived at Mayton for two years, renting a farm. Dad worked for P.L. Grasse in Innisfail for extra supplement to his income. In 1910, we moved to the Horse Shoe Lake District. It was here that the children attended school. Eddie was born here in 1912. We lived near Bob Smith, Claud Paul and Medleys.

In 1916 we rented a farm in the Grahamston district from Mr. Frank Esgate. In 1920 we moved to the Knee Hill District then known as Pleasant Valley. Father was a particularly good horseman and was a very honest and upright living man. He would never have any debts.

I recall that I could shoe my own saddle horse from fourteen years of age.

The family of Mr. and Mrs. H.S. Flinn were:

William Thomas: married Dora Reeves and resides in Lacombe. They have 3 children Iva, Clara and Edna:

Margaret: married Anthony Smith. They reside in Rossland, B.C. and had 6 children: Ted, Marie, Viola, Harlon, Bob, Patricia Ellen.

Sarah: married Fred Hobbs — see Hobbs story:

John: (dec, 1947) married Violet Calvert and they had 4 children: Stewart, Cordella, Margaret and Rodger.

Celesta (dec 1945) married Horace Hicks. They had 3 children: Ralph, Violet and Verna. They resided at Dapps, Alta.

Eddie (dec): married Edith Screen she resides in Innisfail. See Screen story.

My dad died at 87 years of age in 1944.

FORDYCE STORY by Mrs. Gib Hocken

In 1907 about 30 young girls were shipped to Canada from an orphanage in London, England. I was one of these and the youngest being 7 years old. After a long ocean voyage (I was really sick most of the time), we took a train to Winnipeg where I was met by Mrs. Fordyce Sr. who adopted me. I had

brought with me a small box of clothing (my only possession).

The Fordyces were English and had come to Canada at about the turn of the century. Mr. Fordyce had died in 1904 and so the family left were Mrs. Fordyce (Granny), Dave and Jim (her sons). Mrs. Fordyce and I came by train to Bowden, then by team and wagon to the farm in the Cottonwood district. I had never been on a farm before and when I saw the log house, I really thought it must be a pig house. But, I found my new home to be quite cosy inside. They had hung sheets on the walls to make it more home-like and had home made chairs and there was one big homemade bed which I shared with Mrs. Fordyce and the boys had bunks.

I was taught to cook, do the housekeeping, milk and to care for chickens. This was my responsibility most of the time as Mrs. Fordyce was away doing mid-wifery. I remember being so frightened by bears that would come right up to the door. Also there were Lynx. Food was scarce, but we lived off the land there being so many rabbits, prairie chicken and I remember eating porcupine too and it tasted like pork.

To go to school, I had to walk 7 miles often in my bare feet and wade through a slough up to my hips. I would be soaking wet, but never seemed to catch cold. School was in session only in the Spring and Fall due to weather and the fact that children had to



1910: Lillian and Grandma Fordyce; the home Lillian came to from England.

help at home. The first school was held at Ryse House and in 1913 we went to a real school in the district.

We had what we called the "Big 4". (Jim Lairds, Buchans, Tingles & Fordyces). We would take turns each Sunday having dinner. I recall one time we had tripe and mashed potatoes. It was most delightful. We were most fortunate. When I grew out of what I had brought with me, there were the flour sacks. Also there was a great deal of sewing done in re-making clothing for the families. I remember too I used to knit my own long stockings to wear in the winters. I, in turn, did much sewing for my own children and they were always warm and tidy.

Mr. & Mrs. Fordyce Sr. had 14 children, all born in England, but only raised 4 boys and 1 girl. Mr.

Fordyce was a tinsmith and made boilers, kettles, milk pails etc.

I married Dave Fordyce in 1917 and had a family of 8 children: Mary, Dorothy, John (died in 1948), Alfred, Peter (died in 1950), Margaret, Rosa & Doug. They all attended school in Cottonwood.

Granny became an invalid and I looked after her and Uncle Jim. Dave died in 1952 shortly after King George. The worst tragedy that struck was when Mary was a little girl and was kicked in the head by a horse. Her brain was exposed and her father took her to Innisfail and Dr. Wagner saved her.

Mr. Witherspoon was a great friend of ours and he was well known with his Moose Mountain Hall. He held dances and picture shows there for many years.

I married Dave Perry in 1959 and moved to the Aberdeen district and now had a modern home — no more chopping and carrying wood and we had a good life for 10 yrs. Dave then took sick and we retired to Innisfail and bought a nice home. Dave passed away in April 1969. In Nov. 1969 I married Gib Hocken and we still reside in Innisfail enjoying all the modern comforts of home and friendly neighbors.

WILLIAM FORESTER by Bernard Forester

My father, William Forester, was a sailor on the Great Lakes prior to coming West. He was born on October 8, 1860 in Ontario (at Westport). He had heard of the great land offer in the West from a Mr. Lockwood who was already out here and so decided to come. He came with his wife Mary Ann, and three small children: Edmund, William Jr. and infant Evelyn arriving in 1900. There were two other children — Williams' twin brother Robert, and a sister Geneva who died two years previously from whooping cough. They came by rail with a train full of settlers bringing along household furniture and a team of oxen. It was with a team of oxen that he broke the road through the Big Bush which is now No. 54 highway east. The trip from Calgary was with oxen and took about one week.

When he arrived here he went to work for Mr. Lockwood. Howard Wynn was working there at the time. My mother worked in the house for the Lockwoods. My father bought the old Innisfail school and moved it to 45th Street and divided it into two houses. These still stand and are in use. He also put a new house on 49th Avenue which still stands.

Although he came from Ontario here, he always classed himself as an American and my mother was Irish, her parents, the Gibsons, coming from Ireland.

My father went around the east country of Innisfail selling for National Mfg. Co. He sold many organs, cream separators, "New Empress" ranges, sewing machines etc. He had a big white team and did a lot of draying. He hauled much of the coal and lumber for the Alberta Lumber Company here in Innisfail.

I remember the first time I came to town from Knee Hill district then called Milnerton. There were Mother, Edmund, Charles, Ken and I. She took us to the old Presbyterian church and had us all christened. After this we were delighted to be able to go to "Wongs" and have our dinner. Another thing I

remember so well is that we always shopped at Wests' and it didn't matter if we had money or not.

Some of our early neighbors were: Hibberts, Laydens, Fergusons, Weirs, Potters, and Ben Hooper. This was when we were in the Knee Hill Valley District. We later went to the Calder district.

For a time, my parents ran a boarding house called the "Content House".

William and Mary Ann had eleven children — as follows:

Edmund born 1893, deceased in 1962.

William born May, 1895. He married Sarah Gold. He died in March of 1968.

Robert, Williams' twin, died at the age of three.

Jessie Geneva was born in 1896 and died at the age of two.

Evelyn was born in 1899 and deceased. These, were born in Ontario.

Bernard, born in November 1901, married Lily Westergaard, now residing in Innisfail. My wife Lily and I are blessed with two children: Grace (Mrs. Kirstgaard) and Ronald who is with Chrysler Corporation in Vancouver.

Kenneth, born in 1904, died in 1968. He married Mabel Pincombe.

Charles was born in 1906, deceased in 1969. He married Agnes Borthwick and later Ann Taylor.

Geneva was born in September, 1910. She married Ward Snideman and resides in Innisfail.

Elmer was born January 1912 and died March, 1970. He married Isabella McBlain.

Robert was born in 1914 and died in 1969. He married Alma Taylor.

In those days many families named their children after a child who had passed away and this was the case with William's twin, Robert, and sister Geneva.

We boys were much involved in the well drilling business and I also farmed at Dickson before retiring into Innisfail in 1972.

STANLEY A. FOX by Anita Fox & Glenn Fox

S.A. Fox was born in Winnipeg, Man, Nov. 3, 1882. He married Flossie G. Porteous June 6, 1900. Flossie was born in North Dakota and lived in Winnipeg from the age of three years. She taught school before being married.

December 29, 1919 S.A. Fox purchased the Hardware Store in Innisfail from J.T. Rogers and from then known as Innisfail Hardware. He believed Innisfail to be a better agricultural country than Weyburn Sask, where they had been living, and therefore the business opportunities would be better. The family of five sons and Mr. Mark Porteous (Mrs. Fox's father) arrived here in 1919. Mr. Porteous was a carpenter by trade and worked at this until his death in 1934.

S.A. Fox was a councillor, then Mayor of Innisfail serving from 1928-1945. He was one time President of the Mayors & Reeves of Alberta, a member of the Masonic Lodge, a member of the Church and School Boards and a most efficient businessman. He enjoyed golf and curling.

Flossie Fox was President of the Ladies Aid of the United Church for over 25 years, organist, honorary President of the Canadian Legion Auxiliary, Regent of the I.O.D.E. and active in the Missionary Society.

Their sons are: S. Vernon (Tony): married Helen Black, they had one son, Douglas: he later married Winnifred Marshall and they have one son, Marshall. His widow Winnifred resides in Innisfail. M. Murray: b. 1906-d. 1970. He married Anita M. Auger. She was matron of the Innisfail Hospital for 18 years. Murray went into the Hardware, played in town bands, a member of the Legion and Lions Club and a Mason. They have 2 sons: Stanley A. (a hardware merchant) and Allan B. a civil engineer. Russell V: b. 1908, went to work for the Ford Motor Co. in Winnipeg then became district sales manager for Coleman of Canada. He married Lillian Scott and they have 4 children. Frederick Glenn: b. 1912, attended University of Alberta graduating in Geology. Is Grand Master of the Masonic Lodge for Alberta 1972-73. Married Jean Lawrence and they have 2 daughters and reside in Calgary. Charles Graham: b. 1918 was bookkeeper in the Innisfail Hardware, is now Secretary to the School Board District in Brooks. He married Ada Hall and they have one son, Vernon.

Mr. and Mrs. S.A. Fox were a devoted couple to the Town of Innisfail and their church.



1908: Mr. and Mrs. Freeman

children to Innisfail in 1924. E.E. Freeman was a great sportsman, interested in baseball, curling and golf. He organized the Golf Tournament in the summer and the Bonspiels in the winter. He was a volunteer member of the Innisfail Light Horse Assn. during W.W.II.

Mother was a community minded person — enjoyed working in Church groups. She was a great organizer in any society. She was a member of the O.E.S. and was given a life membership from this Order. She was always ready for a game of bridge, enjoyed cooking special family dinners, knitting and crocheting.

The children born to Earl and Elsie Freeman were:

John Ernest, born 1909. He was a teacher before joining the R.C.M.P.. He resigned from the Mounties to join the R.C.A.F. becoming a Flying Officer. He married Pauline Boehm. They had one daughter. John served overseas as a navigator. On Dec. 22, 1944, he died as a result of injuries received when forced to bail out.

Rolland Earl, born 1910, married Inga Johannson. They have twin sons and a daughter. "Roly" is known by many for his musical abilities. He served with the Royal Canadian Engineers in W.W.II and remained in the service until his retirement. They reside in Edmonton.

Emma Elsie Helen; born in 1911, was a teacher, married J.D. Russell and they have 2 children. Emma is still teaching at Prince George B.C.

Twins — Alice and Elsie were born in 1914. Elsie died in infancy. Alice married LaVerne Harwood and they have one daughter. Alice's husband passed away many years ago.

Stanley Taylor, who was born in 1916, married Eunice Guard. Stan served with the Royal Canadian Engineers in W.W.II in Italy. He owns and operates the firm, "Freeman Real Estate & Insurance Agencies Ltd" in Innisfail. Stan and Eunice have 3 sons and reside in Innisfail.

Albert who was born in 1921, married Barbara Lennox. They have 2 children. Albert was a pilot with the R.C.A.F.. He was awarded the D.F.C.. Later, he was a pilot with Trans Canada Airlines (for about 20 years). He is now with Wardair and makes his home in Edmonton.

Earl Freeman died in 1960. Mrs. Elsie Freeman died in 1966.



Daisy and Jack Fream, children of S. P. Fream, who came from Gloucester, England in 1889 and married Chrissie Playle in 1897. He and his brother Ted owned "The Province" and later S. P. Fream had his Real Estate and Insurance Office on Main Street. The Freams moved to Nova Scotia in 1911. While in Innisfail, Jack was a member of Fred Rodgers' Boys' Club; Daisy, born in 1898 and now living in New Jersey, can remember her first neighbors in town were her grandparents Playle and the Kemps; and she still corresponds with schoolmates Charles Maynard and Margaret (St. Denys) Wilson.

FREEMAN STORY by the Freeman Family

Earl Ernest Freeman was born at Yarber, Ontario, Dec. 31, 1885. He met his wife, the former Elsie Mary Taylor, in Chicago where she had attended school and became a secretary. They were married May 27, 1908.

It was in Calgary and Didsbury that Earl Freeman practiced law before coming with his wife and six

**E.W. "ABE" FREEMAN by Margaret Hutchinson
fosterchild of the Freemans**

Abraham Edward Wallace Freeman was born in 1870 in Nova Scotia and brought his bride the former Eliza Hunt to the Oklahoma district in 1904. Arriving in Calgary, the Freemans went by train to Innisfail to live for a while with a brother, Whitman Freeman, until they could build on their own land. There was plenty of wild land for the taking with grass and unlimited wild game, a profusion of trees, shrubs and wild flowers — truly a beautiful country. A touch of the "wild West" occurred one day in the early years as the Freemans were on the way home from shopping in town. They were accompanied by a neighbor woman. They were overtaken by a horseman, a disgruntled neighbor, in a state of intoxication who proceeded to start a quarrel, shouting and swearing, threatening bodily harm and frightening the Freemans' team. Mr. Freeman handed the reins to Mrs. Freeman and stepped down from the buggy to talk to the man and to settle the argument. The two engaged in a scuffle and the drunken man drew out a knife and aimed it at Mr. Freeman's back. The neighbor woman stepped down from the buggy and grasping the whip at the same time, lashed the man vigorously with the braided leathers, putting an abrupt end to the quarrel and sending the fellow off in great haste.

Winters were severely cold and the twelve mile trip to the elevators with the wheat was a long and tedious trip. Mrs. Freeman always put a kerosene lamp in the window at dusk to cheer her husband as he and the team came down the last mile of the trail from town, chilled and weary. Of course the farm chores were done by the womenfolk on the days that the grain went to market. Their home was a frequent boarding place for teachers and a stopping place for itinerant preachers.

Despite the long arduous business of farming, there was time for family picnics with everyone taking a "turn" at the making of ice cream.

In summer there was the Innisfail Fair and occasionally a "Chataqua". Sometimes there would be a circus that would come to town. Most of the recreation however was homemade. Mrs. Freeman used her butter and egg money to purchase an organ and a used phonograph and a collection of old records that came with it. Card games and checkers were part of the long winter scene. Perhaps the most outstanding, most memorable thing of those times was the great kindness and community spirit of the pioneers, ever ready to help each other.

The Freemans moved to B.C. in the early 1920's because of Mrs. Freemans' failing health. She died in 1926 and Mr. Freeman in 1946.

JOHN THOMAS FRY

John Thomas Fry was born February 24, 1886 in Cornwall, England. He came to Canada in 1911 arriving in Innisfail on April 17th. He had been in touch with the Curtices who came from the same place in England and had been informed that there were very few girls here, and that he wouldn't be

bothered with them "buzzing him" and that was his main reason for coming!

When he arrived in Innisfail he noticed first, the wooden sidewalks. He met Kenny Kerr who offered to drive him out to Curtices at a cost of \$3.00. Johnny replied that he could walk cheaper than that. He did, however, get King Edward Hall to take him out in a buggy. Curtices at this time lived in a little log shack with a sod roof in a hollow. It was the first time in Johnny's life that he could look at the roof of a house lower than he was (He was a small man).

He stayed at Curtices until fall and then went threshing with John Brown who had a Rumley Oil Pull machine that had been used for the first time the year prior. "I became a spike pitcher along with Norman Black, Tom Husband and Billy Banner. I threshed with Browns many times and they were like a family to me and treated me as a son. The first year, the machine got stuck in the Tester field (Baar Place). The frost wasn't strong enough to carry the machine so green frozen wood was chopped to go under the wheels and hitting this type of wood, the axe flew and nearly cut off my leg. Dr. Allen finally had to scrape my leg and told me he hadn't believed the story of Englishmen being bricks before, but did now. I went to recuperate at Brose Vreelands. Broses' brother and I used to get into terrible arguments, one being what a stud horse was — we called them stallions in England and had to get the dictionary out to convince me I was wrong. When my leg was nearly better I returned to Curtices', then to Tom Husband's for threshing. I then decided to get a job at the railroad. They were paying \$1.75 for a ten hour day. Mark Hocken came in 1912 and he was living in the house across the track. We could board with him, but I decided that the cost of the board and what we made — would give reason for my resignation.

At this time Mr. Baar (a man from Germany via the States) was looking for help. I asked him for a job. He asked if I was an Englishman — I replied "Yes" He asked, "How long have you been out here?" I told him one year. "You're pretty green". I told him if there is something you can do and I can't I will work for nothing. I was hired under those conditions. Sometime later he told me I was the best green Englishman he had ever seen! I remember the time they went for lumber to build a house. The first day Mrs. Baar and I went. The next day he told me to stay on the land and he would go for the lumber. A thunder storm came up and the thunder scared the team and they ran away. He went to grab for the lines and the wagon hit him and broke his hip. He laid in the rain for a long time before someone found him. We had quite a job getting Dr. Allen as the telephone lines were down, but eventually Dr. Allen came. From then on Mr. Baar was crippled and for as long as I was there could only lay on the floor. He gave his orders from this position and could yell loud and strong his orders for Mrs. Baar and I to work. The rains came and we really couldn't do any outside work, but had to pretend we were in order to satisfy him. One time Mr. Baar needed to be flipped over

and I went to do it by putting a towel under him. He said I was too small and not strong enough. That time he flipped over — never so fast before! When I quit working for them I went to Noble and Ted Robinsons for a while.

My first homestead was where Freddie Michiel is now. In 1915 there was a flood from the Big Red river beside my land and it took away 50 or 60 acres of my land.

In 1916 Sandy Dallas was the recruiting officer in Innisfail. Sandy hit me up to enlist. Tom Abraham had enlisted he told me; so it turned out that Alex Campbell and I did too. It was the craziest thing I ever did! I went overseas with George Morison on the same boat and we returned on the same boat. Bill Wade was a Corporal; Clem Thompson and Charlie Hodge were along too. Barnett (the lawyer) was the officer in charge. Curuso was an Italian and would sleep in his birthday suit. We slept upstairs over Aspinalls. The Sarcee men advised Curuso to go home from there. De Rolls went in the first bunch with Bill Rawlings. He was a French Count, but in my opinion he didn't count for much. He had a 14 yr. old son Henry who was mascot. Jack Morris was another that went in the Light Horse.



John and Ada Fry

In England the rations were terrible. I couldn't get any matches for my pipe so I knew I would return to Canada. I remember in France the French used tobacco for pellets. They built up trenches with Corned Beef. We couldn't eat it as there was no water and it was too salty. Thirst was the worst of the war. Where dead men were lying, we would put a tin can in and get a drink of water. I remember the Colonel telling us he was taking us into hell, and that there would be a bunch of wooden crosses instead of us all returning. Trucks were on their sides and the water was running red.

When I had left Innisfail Carl Hovey, Bill Center and Ben Marsen were buzzing girls. I was buzzing them too — but on my return all had changed.

I met my wife at Harry Husband's. She was the former Ada Kersley. She was born in England in 1891 and came to Canada in June 1930 to visit her two sisters: Ivy (Husband) and Nellie (Husband). We were married — October 29, 1930.

We moved into Innisfail on April 15, 1968 from down the highway where we had moved in 1948. The town has changed through the years — improvement in some places but we had happier people when there wasn't as much money around.

When asked of his occupations Johnny replied "outside of the three days on the track, I was a farmer. I was Knut Magnussons' Landlord — he was a good old guy. I was President of the Old Time Corner in G.W. Wests' store. I had a bunch to look after there — John Wilson Sr., Percy Hill, Truman Sparks, Norman Badcock, Bill Page, Alan Bryan, Carl Morkeberg, Herman Barkemeyer, Joe Marshall and Jimmy Frazer. When the store was closing out I became the floor walker and later Cindy Chadwick and I looked after the grocery department."

John Thomas Fry died in February, 1972.

This story was taken from a tape we have. He was a great little man with very definite ideas and the sense of being able to judge people and his judgement was seldom wrong. If you were his friend, a better supporter couldn't be found. Many a person was helped by Johnny with no questions asked and no one enjoyed life more than wee Johnny Fry —

Donna Chadwick

THOMAS G. FULTON by Grace Fulton, his wife

Thomas G. Fulton was born at Oakland, Ontario April 14, 1884. He had been educated to be a lawyer, but never practiced as he preferred ranching. He came from Ontario first to Maple Creek, Saskatchewan for ten years where he tried his luck at ranching. The prairie wool on the ranch at Cypress Hills couldn't stand being cut for hay every year and got shorter and shorter. So he moved to Didsbury for a year and then moved west of Innisfail in 1919. His mother passed away at Didsbury; his father at Maple Creek.

Thomas G. Fulton married Grace Viola Hills from Burlington, North Dakota at Maple Creek, May 3, 1917. He passed away at Innisfail on June 5, 1951. Children: James Vernon Fulton — rancher; Bowden; married Helen Thomson; Thomas Earl Fulton — CNR engineer; Jasper; married Alice Millar; Robert Marvin Fulton — rancher; farming home place at Innisfail; mother lives with him; Muriel Viola Fulton — married Ronald Scott; lives at Red Deer.

The Hudson Bay trail to Rocky Mountain House crossed our land, and it had deep ruts worn in by much travel. We were the only ones with a car at that time. One day Thomas started out with it and he met Dave Fordyce as he went around a bend where trees blocked the vision. Dave had team and wagon with planks for a wagon box and he was sleeping while the horses followed the trail. Mr. Fulton could not stop in time and he couldn't turn out of the ruts with the car, but the horses jumped out jerking the wagon out of the ruts and nearly tipping it over. It sent a box of groceries flying along with Dave. The horses stopped and Dave got up wondering what had happened. He started to pick up packages without a word. We sort of made up for that episode when Dave's little girl (about 2 years old) ran out among his horses and got

a very bad kick in the head. They came to Mr. Fulton who was able to quickly take her into town and Dr. Wagner pulled her through without any after affects. Another time Mr. Fulton was able to help with the car — Mrs. Hays, an elderly lady, was splitting wood for her stove when a piece of wood flew up hitting her in the head. When found, she was laying unconscious by her wood pile, but was soon taken into town to the doctor in our car.

The whole family worked as soon as they were big enough. Milking cows and selling cream to buy groceries; raising grain and cattle and selling some to buy clothes. We picked wild berries and raised rhubarb for fruit; had a big vegetable garden; sometimes we got some wild meat, sometimes we killed a beef and sometimes went without meat.

I used to cross the river on horseback to pick blueberries. Once I stayed too late and before I got back to the river it was dark. I couldn't see where the crossing place was and rather than risk the horse getting into deep water, I put my two pails of berries under a bush and went back to a farm and asked to stay the night. When I got to the crossing next morning my family were on the other side looking for me.

It took a lot of wood for cooking and heating. To begin with we sawed and split it by hand and then later got a buzz saw but it was still a lot of work to get it out of the bush and haul it home. We piled it against the house wall about 4' high.

After the old car got so it didn't run so good any more, we went back to using horses and wagon or democrat. Now when I go to Innisfail, I wonder how we ever stood riding all that way in a wagon bumping over the rough road. People living west of us often passed with loads of tamarac fence posts to sell in Innisfail, and would usually stay with us on their way back that night. They would not want to chance a river crossing in the dark as the water was always higher at night.

I wondered at first why the grain was put into 100 lb. bags and not just hauled loose in the wagon box but was told that when hauling into the elevator in winter they often tipped over because of the snowdrifts or icy roads and the sacks could be reloaded, but not loose grain. I remember when Jimmie Wotherspoon came here from Scotland — he came to thresh dressed in tweeds. They were threshing barley and they put him to work on the straw pile; the barley beards stuck to his suit and he looked like a porcupine.

Neighbors were: Mrs. Fordyce, Dave and Jim; Mr. & Mrs. Fred Tingle; Scott family; George Buchan and family; Jim Hays and family; Mr. & Mrs. Joe Brightman and family.

Before we came, Hepburn Thomson and most of the men around here had helped to build a bridge over the big Red Deer river about 1/2 mile from our place. It didn't last long as in the spring of 1916 at break-up, there was a great flood; ice and trees came down and took out the bridge. When we moved here there was only the pier left.

I had not been here long before I joined the Women's Institute. It covered a large area from here to Garrington. After awhile we decided there were enough of us in Cottonwood to have one and we would not have to travel so far; so we got organized as the Cottonwood W.I. and I am a member still. Some of the first members are Mrs. Tingle, Mrs. Anderson, Mrs. Cunningham Sr.

I remember Mrs. Varty of Innisfail. She was a real old pioneer. I stayed at her house in 1920 when Earl was born.

JOHN FRANCIS FUMERTON by Dr. Aubrey Scott Fumerton

My father, John Francis Fumerton, was born at Fallbrook, Ontario in 1863. My mother (Annie Marie Loch) was born at MacDonalds' Corner, Ontario Oct. 23, 1864. They were married in August of 1887 and lived to celebrate 76 years of married life.

Of this marriage 5 children were born and all are well and alive today (1973) Mrs. Herga Ricker 85 yrs old and living in West Vancouver. Turner Lock Fumerton 79 yrs old and living in Kelowna, Aubrey Scott Fumerton (that's me) 75 years old, Mrs. F.E. Lewis (Margaret Mable) 68 yrs old and living in Kelowna, Frank Fumerton 66 years old living in Kelowna and having Fumertons' Ltd.

My father and mother lived in Ontario a short time and later moved to Winnipeg where he worked at a grocery store for about 3 yrs. Later, Dad bought a business of his own in Manitoba and we lived there for a number of years then Dad sold out and went into partnership in a wholesale business in Winnipeg. Anxious to get into business for himself Dad took up an offer at Innisfail. After he established himself in Innisfail he sent for the family and in 1910 we said goodbye to Manitoba and hello to Alberta. We arrived in Alberta in early spring hoping to find the promised warmer climate. A roaring blizzard greeted us as we stepped off the train at Innisfail — Then we knew we had not come to live in a banana-belt.

At family gatherings in recent years our family always recalled the years we lived in Innisfail. They were happy years, busy years. My father was a member of the IOOF, my mother belonged to the I.O.D.E. and of course they were staunch Presbyterians.

In 1916 Maurice Jensen and I boarded the south-bound train and landed in Calgary and joined up in "His Majesty's Services". We were assigned to the 137th Battalion. In August of 1916 we shipped out for overseas service. I received my first overseas pay in September 1916 and my last in May of 1919.

Some of my schoolmates were Maurice Jensen, Orlie Foster, Dorsey Parsons, Elmer Kemp, Shorty deLong, Aubrey McMillan and Dewey Barwis.

My Dad died at the age of 100 years and six months. My Mother died at the age of 99 years and six months.

My parents left Innisfail to go and establish a store business in Kelowna in 1917.

G WAS A REMITTANCE MAN: by Hamond Gates

He and I were great friends, when he was sober, which was quite often because his remittance from an outraged family in the west of England was not very big. When in funds he was apt to saddle a horse and ride to town and stay there till the money was spent or as sometimes happened, the hotel men refused to sell him any more.

He had a great friend in big Jack MacFarlane — exlumberjack, a huge good-natured giant who constituted himself G's protector if around when G was on a spree. G's manners when half drunk were not of the best and he took delight in insulting perfect strangers if they jostled him at the bar.

Jack would hold G down with a ham-like hand on his bald head and soothe the hurt feelings of the insulted one, meanwhile taking punches to the belly and kicks on the shin from wee G with a tolerant smile and G yelling "Blast you Jack."

On one occasion I traced G to a bed in the Alberta Hotel on railway street and found him interested in the movement of pink elephants and other strange phenomena about the walls. On seeing me, he, always the son of politeness, said, "Give me a drink you bloody fool" and when I refused and tried to persuade him to ride home with me, he really gave me a broadside and I left him to count his pets on the ceiling and went to talk to Doc Holmes, then the proprietor of the hotel. Doc said he would sober him up and give him a meal and put him on the road as soon as he was fit to travel.

Later on a scorching hot July day, towards noon, G staggered into my place with his saddle on his head and bridle in hand and flopped exhausted and very bad tempered onto the couch. After several dippers of well water and a shot of rye, I helped him off with his boots, gave him a basin of water to soak his scalded feet in, and he revived enough to tell me the following sad story:

"They wouldn't give me any more drink at the Alberta." According to G, Doc Holmes and Arthur Daw, the bartender, had treated him shamefully; and I said:

"I know, they filled you with black coffee didn't they?"

"Yes, blast them, how did you know?"

"Then I suppose they pulled you out of bed, doused you with cold water, and made you get dressed and then fed you."

"I couldn't eat — just had a prairie oyster. They wouldn't give me a drink. I tried to buy a bottle and they wouldn't sell me one. I told them what I thought of them and their blasted hotel; never go there again . . . all I had was a prairie oyster and a John Collins'".

"Thought you said they wouldn't give you a drink?"

"Who said a John Collins was a drink?"

"I expect you felt the better for it, though?"

"Not a bloody bit. Give me some more of the rye."

"Not 'till you have had something to eat."

On searching his pockets he found he had no money to pay the livery bill for his horse, but they chalked it up. However he had enough to buy a flask of whiskey at the Royal Hotel, so he saddled up and rode 'Old Socks' over there, bought his mickey and set out to ride home in the dark; no doubt taking frequent pulls at the flask. When he came to an unoccupied log shack in the gloom on the north side of the trail, which no doubt looked something like home to one in his fuddled condition; and in spite of protests from Old Socks, rode him to the door, pulled off saddle and bridle, slapped the boy on the rump and strode into the shack. Wise Old Socks wasted no time hitting the trail for his real home, of course, and G made the best of a hard and dirty floor 'till morning and then walked six long miles in the heat, lugging a heavy saddle and bridle and a raging thirst.

On another occasion G had been on a spree in town and two neighbors loaded him in their wagon to bring him home. They said he slept peacefully on the floor. Now to lie on the bare floor of a moving wagon on a prairie trail, let alone sleep, would be beyond the capability of any sober person. G, however, slept; unfortunately must have been pretty well liquored too. One of them had a stationary engine at home and was hauling a barrel of gasoline for the infernal machine and coming up the Grahamston Hill in the dark, thought he could smell a leak. He said to his companion, "Alec, I believe the gas is leaking — better take a look." It had leaked, all right, and G's pant legs had soaked up some of it. (Alec couldn't be expected to see in the dark, now could he?) So he struck a match. There was a grand flash, the team tried to run away, and poor G, quite sure he had reached the nether regions at last, leapt from the wagon and fled across the prairie until caught and extinguished by Alec.

I was led to believe at the time they were all pretty sober when they got home.

Many stories are told of the greenhorn Englishmen who came early. One put a saddle on the horse backwards, another stood in a tub to chop his kindling so he wouldn't cut his feet off.

HAMOND GATES

I, George Hamond Gates, came to this country in the early Spring of 1912, at the age of 18, to old friends of the family, the late E.F. Medley, and his wife, Maud. They were extremely kind to me and overlooked the failings of a willing, but 'green kid'. So I have no tales of dreadful hardships to relate. In fact, looking back, I have many memories of the kindness I received from almost all the splendid people I met at that time, and this pleasant relationship continued through the years.

To demonstrate what I mean, when I stepped off the C.P.R. train at Innisfail, and other passengers had

left the station, I was wondering what to do with my trunk. Hughie Hodge came up to me and said, "Throw it on my dray"; he was driving an old white horse, and hauling supplies to the Coliseum Grocery Store, (owned by his father, Wm. Hodge, late of Glasgow) and would accept no payment, so I took him into the bar of the Royal Hotel next door and stood him a whiskey. The bar was full and he introduced me to several men including the Mountie, Constable Angerman; there was only one in those days; we were a law abiding lot on the whole.

After a round or two, Don Angerman took me to his house where Mrs. Angerman gave me a good dinner. I then said I would walk the twelve miles to Medleys', and was told, "Well, you can't miss the way, just follow the bottles." But Charles Hoar arrived with a team to drive me out, and I may say I saw no empty bottles.

The mudholes were deep, and the mosquitoes fierce, and the frog chorus after dark had to be heard to be believed. Those first few years before the World War I were very wet; creeks and sloughs were full to overflowing; and there were no high graded roads so travel except by saddle horse was not easy. Somebody bought a piano and stuck with his wagon and team in a steep draw on the old Burns' place some four miles S.E. of town. There the piano sat all summer through many heavy rains; whether it was ever again fit to play, I don't know. I got stuck and broke a pair of double trees in the same place, but got the new John Deere gang plow I was hauling home alright. I also got stuck within a mile of home in a comparatively dry spell that summer, with 1000 bricks from Kremer's yard. I had a fine team of big, good horses, but the wagon sank literally to the axles, and that was that. We got the bricks home a few at a time on a stoneboat.

The first Calgary Stampede, put on by Guy Weadick in 1912, took place in late August. We were still haying, or trying to, and it rained day after day, heavy drenching rain. So Medley told Archie Hoar and I we could go to Calgary if we wished. After supper that night we saddled up, rode to town through a cold driving rain, and so dark we couldn't see our horses' ears. We left our horses in Kenny Kerrs' livery barn and got to bed at the Alberta Hotel. Doc Holmes (proprietor), Arthur Daw (bartender) and we caught the southbound at 4 a.m. Victoria Park had sheets of water in all the low spots, and it was often a toss up whether the cow pony or the big Mexican steer stood up when the rope tightened. However, it was a marvellous show and to my mind it is doubtful if it has ever been equalled since.

We stayed down there three or four days, but returned home when the sun came out and put up three or four stacks of what we called 'Brown Hay' (spoiled, in fact).

We had a Registered Shire stallion and four registered mares, and 23 head of good grade mares with their foals and yearlings, and some two year olds besides 40 head of two year old steers on feed. My main job those first few winters was hauling feed,

mostly hay, and some green feed, and sometimes hauling a load of grain over to Jim Scott's at Knee Hill, to get it ground by Scott's father-in-law Mr. Marsh, who had a small stationary engine and grinder.

We had a wind mill to pump water and also a 6" grinder which we kept running as long as the wind blew. Many is the time we got out in the middle of the night if a strong wind got up, and ground a bin full for the steers. Then there was always the wood-pile, it being the only source of warmth until we built a coal bin by the kitchen door and hauled the odd load from the Ghost Pine. This was a two day round trip, if you were lucky and the trails not too bad. Four horses could haul 3 tons on sleighs, but it was a tough trip on man and beast at the best of times. I also made many trips to the bush with team and sleigh, and feed for the horses, a packet of sandwiches in my pocket and a mouthful of snow when thirsty. To cut a big load of green poplar and load it took all of a short winter day, and the drive home, some four miles at sunset, could be quite painful if one was wet and tired. But it was all good clean fun and I thoroughly enjoyed life.

Roads:

The early attempts at road building consisted of ploughing a crown down the centre of a road allowance and throwing succeeding furrows inwards, thus creating a slightly raised grade with open furrows each side, with culverts (plank) in the draws and low spots filled with slush scrapers and the whole maintained and smoothed by a wheel grader pulled by eight horses. Rivers and creeks were bridged in due course.

About the only good thing that could be said of these roads was that they were easy on the horses' feet, until freeze-up anyway. In wet seasons, the number of fence to fence mudholes on some of them was unbelievable and careful thought and inquiries of neighbours were necessary if one hoped to plan a route to haul any kind of a load after a heavy rain.

We used to avoid them as much as possible and use the old trails along the high ground. This entailed opening and shutting a lot of wire gates, but usually made travel easier. However, in fine weather, they could be good to travel and it was a real pleasure to drive over them with a good team and buggy or democrat, hear the meadowlarks singing, and watch the red-tailed hawks. Rough legged hawks and Swainson's Hawks perched on telephone poles on the lookout for gophers, and tiny sparrow hawks after mice. Falcons after duck, Goshawks after prairie chicken, partridges and rabbits and Golden Eagles also after rabbits, grouse, etc. Every pothole and slough held ducks and teal, scoters, pintails, shovellers. In fact, the country was a bird paradise in those days; one could count forty or more varieties, large and small, in a twelve mile drive on a late spring day. Sadly most of them are missing today, civilization does that to most wild things.

After freeze-up and as soon as enough snow had fallen, we switched to sleighs, and cutters, and the

travel problems were usually made easier. Then wind and drifts were our main trouble, and we used bush trails as much as possible. The spring break-up was the worst time and if one lived any distance from town, the thing to do was to make a list of required items, a month's groceries, repairs, lumber, etc. and get them before the sleighing gave out. It was driving the last few miles near town that gave the most trouble — too much travelled, not enough snow and mud from fence to fence; and the town streets knee-deep in mud if you left the trip too late. Neighbours going to town picked up mail and often groceries for others, who would do the same when they went in.

If conditions were very bad, we used saddle horses. A good walking heavy team on a good trail would make the trip one way in three hours, and a good light team in one hour. Under bad conditions it sometimes could take 6 to 7 hours to cover the twelve miles. The livery men knew as much about travel as anybody. They kept several teams of drivers. The Doctor would hire one to take him to a patient, maybe 20 miles out and again over all sorts of roads and bad trails, and in all conditions from blizzards to thunderstorms. Cattle buyers hired these good little teams to get them about the country over the spring roads. Commercial travellers visiting the country stores and others used them also. Some livery drivers that I remember in those days were Frank Anderson, A.B. Carter, and Jack Varty. All good horsemen, who knew how to save a horse and get the most out of him, without hurting him. They knew where everyone lived and how to get there by the easiest route.



Hamond and Phyllis Gates and daughter Marjorie. Marjorie married Robert Hewitt, a rancher at Cowley; they have four children.

Threshing:

In 1912 it was still the custom to stack and thresh the grain. Anthony Smith owned a Case Steam engine and he would move around the district as soon as the ground was firm enough to carry his big outfit. The stacks were set in pairs, so that the long feeder of the separator could be pulled between them, and so allow bundles to be pitched from both sides. The threshed

grain was hauled from the machine to the granary, where it was unloaded by hand — fast — so the driver could get backed into the machine and hooked on to the full wagon before it overflowed.

By 1914 stook threshing began to come into fashion in the district, and field bins were made. The whole operation was much simpler as acreages grew bigger, and the labour force less as the young fit men joined the forces. It was in this year that Hamilton, Fead, and Gilray bought the outfit, with Norman Fead as engineer, Alf Sannes separator man, and the crew consisted of Fred Hobbs, Bill Center, Bob Gordon, Os Blair and yours truly, as regulars, plus Tom and Matt Hamilton, Simon Fead and Doc Gilray when they got their chores done. The engine ran on straw or cordwood when we could get it, and used about six tanks of water per day. I know because I was tank man the fall of 1915. This was all stook threshing and the crops were very good both falls. The weather was kind too except for a heavy snow storm when we were nearly through. The pay, as I remember, separator man \$2.50 per day, tank man \$2.00, pitchers \$1.50 — 6 a.m. till dark and sometimes to finish a job we hung a lantern above the feeder at night. But it was a pleasure to work with such a bunch of good men full of mischief and high spirits, rarely too tired to play tricks. One needed a padlock on a hip pocket if there was a plug of tobacco in it.

By 1919 when I got back from Germany, the old steamers had gone and the fashion seemed to be small separators run by gas engines. Acres were bigger, crews smaller, and the business seemed to me a poor imitation of the real thing.

I acquired the NW32-34-27-4 in the spring of 1914 and I recall the taxes that year amounted to \$11.00 which I was able to work off in two days' road work with my team. I had to work out that summer, between fixing fences, etc. at home. There was a house and some log buildings all in a bad state of dilapidation and these I patched and made do with.

I had one team of horses, and had to have more, and that led to my first deal with Fred Archer, who let me have two of his purebred Clydesdale mares, and whenever I had a bit of money I would buy a cow or heifer. The result was that I went into that first winter broke. Bush rabbits were in thousands that year and I cooked them boiled, baked, fried and stewed, but they still tasted of the poplar bark they lived on and I have never eaten one since. Harry Farrant, butcher and good friend gave me several pigs' heads from which I made head cheese, and smoked cheeks, and got tired of that by spring when I was able to shoot a few ducks.

The house was very cold, but there was lots of wood handy. I had hayed in Grahamston Coulee with the Feads and took hay as wages so had enough feed for my horses and cattle but no grain. I also wintered some colts for Alf Sannes with two of my own, he to supply grain, in the form of excellent oat bundles, which he did, and by such devious means I survived the first winter batching on my own; and stock all fat

and fit by spring. 1915 was similar except that I now figured that I could pay for the farm and join the army. That winter I sold the cattle and later the horses, etc. joining the 13th C.M.R. leaving the title deeds in the Union Bank.

Neighbours 1912-1915:

Edgar Medley and his wife Maude, came from England in 1903 to Calgary and soon after that set up farming at Horse Shoe Lake, on a section and 3/4 raising draft horses and a few saddle horses. He was educated at Highgate School, London, and Wadham College, Oxford. They ran a very successful operation until the 1914-18 war, when he went over with the 187th Bn: and was invalided home in 1918, and died and was buried on the ranch soon after his return. They had two daughters, Kitty Marriott, Vancouver B.C. and Eileen, deceased.

George Lee Warner went out to New Zealand from my county of Norfolk, England, where he married a Scotswoman, and about the turn of the century, he and E.F. Mayo, another Englishman from New Zealand settled in the Horse Shoe Lake and Grahamston districts. Mayo Bros., well known Hereford Breeders, and long my close neighbours and friends are sons of Mr. & Mrs. F.G. Mayo.

W.A. Robinson and his mother and two sisters homesteaded here in the 1890's as did Hamilton Bros., Thomas and Matthew — hardy Scots.

Gus Roper settled just north of the Lake and Mr. Smith, and sons, John, Anthony, Tom, Robert and Fred all farmed close around the lake in the early 1890's. The Smiths came from Ontario — descendants are still with us in large numbers, and very successful farmers too.

Dr. Gilray, came from Buffalo, New York, a few years before I did, and farmed where Dale Carroll is today. He generally kept one or two hired men, and worked very hard himself. Although not practicing medicine at that time, his services were in frequent demand to deliver a baby, or attend the sick, and was often content with whatever patients could give him in kind and doubtless much he never did collect. Mrs. Gilray was noted for her cooking, and many is the fine spread I have sat down to at their table at threshing time and other occasions. Their daughter, Dorothy, was the toast of all the bachelors for miles, but she eventually married a fellow in the States when

the family retired there in the early twenties. When I returned from the war, Dr. Gilray was practising in Innisfail, and took me to his house for supper, and insisted on driving me out to my place at Horse Shoe Lake in his small car. That was the kind of man he was.

The Holden boys, as they were called, when I first knew them, were all middleaged men. They, with their Father, had come from the Ontario bush and were all good woodsmen. The old man, whom to my great regret I never met, was a great wanderer, and was reputed to have travelled on foot to the Yukon overland from Northern Alberta in 1898, and out again under his own steam, but no richer, unless experience counts. His sons were all natures' gentlemen with the best of manners and kindly goodhearted neighbours, five of them. They were expert axemen and George was a very good carpenter and built many of the earlier frame houses and barns in the district. He and Phil built a good many sets of log buildings too, from poplar logs, and these were works of art. Every log selected, hewn with the broad axe, and corners dovetailed, warm in winter, cool in summer. I don't remember when they came to Alberta, but as they all owned homesteads it must have been before 1900; all bush quarters. Lem, whom I knew least of the brothers, farmed what land he had cleared out of solid bush, which is now all cleared and producing grain for Ralph Oxtoby.

Sam Holden owned the quarter which Troy Dulaney farmed until his death. It had less trees and more big willows on it. Phil Holden homesteaded NE4-35-27-4 which my partner and I rented from him in 1914 to run cattle on, as Phil had cleared and farmed about 70 acres of it, and it was well fenced and seeded to grass. Phil himself lived on his Father's homestead, just north of where Bill Hill now lives. All that country was heavy bush in those days. George Holden homesteaded an open quarter on the Knee Hill creek, which he traded to E.F. Medley for a bush quarter which he later sold to Arthur Young, now owned by Geoff Hoar, and not much bush left there today. Sid Holden's homestead was a mile south on the creek, and he later sold it to the late Jack Barclay.

George, Sam and Phil would often go to the Creston district of B.C. cutting shingles, for a grubstake in the early days — or logging up the Red Deer River in Alberta. Phil would tell of driving logs to the Red Deer Saw mills, and at least one trip to Drumheller with pit props and wild life to be seen along the high banks south of Red Deer.

Sam must have been nearing sixty when he went overseas with the 187th Bn. One wonders what lies he told the recruiting officer, before they took him on. But it was dear old Sam who came walking over the drifts to see if the Medleys had survived the big May snowstorm of 1919. I was not yet back from England, but it must have been a humdinger, from what I heard when I did return in August. And it was Sam who turned to and helped them dig out doorways and feed and water stock, etc. It went well below zero, so they



Highway 54 in 1910 showing A. Lennox, Mr. Travers (Mrs. Brigg's brother), and Wm. Simpson.

managed to get around on top of the huge drifts until the thaw came, but they had to guess where the well might be and dig down to the pump before they could get water. They couldn't find the sleighs, but luckily had a stoneboat in the barn on which they moved a few sacks of grain and oat bundles to keep the stock alive. Medley was a dying man at the time and so not good for much. But for Sam Holden, things could have been desperate. What price do you put on men like him?

In 1914 my closest neighbours were the MacDiarmid family from Ontario and I received many kindnesses from them. They had three daughters, all school teachers, and one son Alec who farmed next to me for some years in the 1920's before going into business in Edmonton. Donna was married to Jack Davidson, a young Scotsman who farmed for a few years before joining the Canadian Bank of Commerce. Their son, Murray, joined the navy before World War two and attained the rank of Lt. Commander. Leone, who used to ride a little roan Cayuse to Knee Hill school, winter and summer four miles each way, married Norman Fead, and had two sons, Bill and Lawrence. Helen rode a black pony 3-3/4 miles to Horse Shoe Lake school to teach. Alec served in the C.E.F. in World War I. Simon had two sons and one daughter, Clara, who married George Calder of Little Red Deer. Norman Fead, already mentioned, farmed with his father and brother Archie went to B.C. and I lost touch with him.

Archie and Charles Hoar came to Alberta from England about 1909, I think. In 1912-13 they both worked at times for E.F. Medley. Archie had just bought the first quarter of his fine farm at Knee Hill, which he and son Geoff developed through the years. Charles Hoar returned to England and joined the British Army in 1914, and after a long spell in France went through the hell of the Mesopotamia Campaign. Archie joined the 187th Bn. and served in France with the 50th Bn. C.E.F. Arthur Young also from England, and a cousin of the Hoars, also worked for Medley at times, also for E.F. Mayo, Geo. Lee-Warner, and Mrs. Buckham, but for several years before the war, Young worked for Charlie MacCallum at Wilkie, Sask., and later farmed the quarter west of Archie Hoar. He went overseas with the 50th Bn. from Calgary in 1915. He married Agnes Newman, a sister of Mrs. Archie Hoar.

Guy Dansey was another Englishman and a close neighbour of mine, and very good old friend. He lived in a log shack on W.A. Robinson's place and also worked, when funds were low for Mrs. Buckham, Medley, etc. He was a short round-about figure, very bald and middle aged when I first met him. He was well educated, a first class shot with a shot gun and a very good naturalist; we had a great deal in common. Unfortunately, he loved the bottle too well. He was still a bachelor until after the war when he married a good woman, who straightened him out. They lived near Vancouver, where he transformed a bit of rough hillside into a beautiful garden with trout in a pool fed by a tiny stream. Always a

clever gardener, the first humming birds I ever saw were feeding on the mass of flowers in front of his log shack at Horse Shoe Lake. In those days cultivated flowers were very rare, though there were lots of prairie flowers. He went overseas with the 187th Bn.

All these bachelors were accustomed to spend Christmas at Medleys', with lots to eat and drink and songs round the piano. One of us would provide a tree, another keep the wood boxes filled, another haul water to the house, do chores, etc. and the whole crew washed up and dried dishes, etc. after meals. There was always a Hudson Bay wine and spirit hamper.

GEORGE GEARY by G. Grant Geary

George Geary was born in London, Ontario in 1835. In 1863 he married Ellen Margaret Harding of London, Ontario. He farmed in Ontario and Iowa for a short time. In 1863 he prospected for gold in the Cariboo. He came to Innisfail in the early 1890's with his wife, son William (who also homesteaded) and daughter Grace. He was among the first to import purebred Aberdeen Angus cattle from Britain, taking many prizes at the big stock shows.

He homesteaded near Antler Hill. Later he purchased a quarter section to farm one-half mile east of Innisfail. He built two houses in town and also a brick business block on main street in which Geary's Drug Store was located. He was instrumental in the development of the Agricultural Society and Fairgrounds. George Geary was Mayor of Innisfail. Louis St. Dennis Sr. who worked for my grandfather, told him he could remember seeing herds of buffalo in the surrounding country from the top of Antler Hill.

Children born to Mr. & Mrs. George Geary were: William Geary, who was born in London Ontario in 1865. He married Minnie L. Taylor of London, Ontario in 1894. William was a long time member of the Innisfail School Board and other organizations. William died in 1928 at Kelowna B.C. Minnie died in 1936 in Edmonton. There were two children born to this union: G. Grant Geary — served in France with the 187th Battalion until 1919. He was wounded three times: Attended school in Innisfail and remembers the first teacher being Mabel Constantine. Grant Geary married Francis Stewart the only daughter of Jesse Stewart (an oldtime merchant of Innisfail). Mr. & Mrs. Grant Geary are residing in Calgary (1973). Reg H. Geary enlisted in the Royal Flying Corps in W.W.I. along with Orval McArthur, Aubrey McMillan and Frank West. After the war, Reg went to Kelowna in the General Motors Corporation and then went to China to help them out in their war (in the airforce). In China, he met and married Shelly who came from Russia. He then went to Montreal in the advertising business in which he was very successful and was about ready to retire when he had a heart attack and passed away. His widow lives in the Barbadoes and one daughter in New York and the other daughter in Toronto.

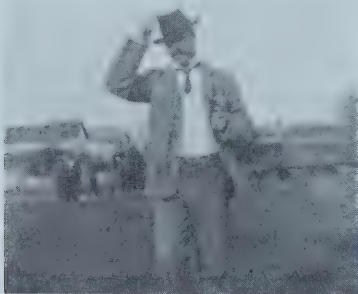
Grace Geary, was born in London, Ontario and died in 1954 in Edmonton. She married Edward J. Fream who died in Edmonton in 1950.

DR. HENRY GEORGE by Mrs. Henrietta (Nettie) Parker

Dr. Henry George was born in Lincolnshire, England on August 10, 1863. He married Barbara Mary Bernard of Dublin, Ireland, born 1867. They emigrated to Canada settling in Calgary. There was no doctor in Poplar Grove; he had been driving there to see patients from Calgary since 1889, liked the country, and moved to Innisfail in 1892 with his wife and three children. Seven more children were born to the George's while they lived in Innisfail.

Dr. George inaugurated the "Territorial Natural History Society" in 1899 and was the president when it later, in 1905, became "The Alberta Natural History Society." Natural History and his museum were his avocation in Innisfail. When he went on calls into the country, he usually had time to add to his collections and also to hunt duck, geese, prairie chicken to feed to his family. Patients mostly in those days paid the doctor with firewood, meat or farm produce. His museum collection is now in Heritage Park in Calgary.

Dr. George had served with the Royal Army Medical Corps (England) 1880-1888 and the R.Canadian A.M.C. from 1914-1920 and was Civilian Police Surgeon with the R.N.W.M.P. & R.C.M.P. as well as with the Alberta Provincial Police. He was a Coroner and J.P. In Innisfail he was a member of the Orange Lodge and I.O.O.F.



Dr. George in Innisfail

He built a house with Innisfail brick on Dodd's Lake (now lived in by Les Erven) in 1893. Mrs. George purchased socks, mitts, etc. from Mrs. Sofias Goodman, an Icelander at Tindastoll, for many years. In the fall, the two Harbison brothers, two Johnsons, Satterly and Luttlely, all good axe-men, held a "raising bee" to put up a big cow barn in Dr. George's lower corral. The children swam in Dodd's Lake. In 1902 six of them got scarlet fever and Ewan, not quite 3 years old, died and is buried in the Innisfail Cemetery.

In June 1907, the Georges moved to Red Deer where Dr. George set up a practice and attended the Indian Children at the Government Industrial School west of Red Deer. Some of the children came from as far away as Hudson's Bay.

Dr. George died in Victoria in 1932 and Mrs. George in 1936.

The George children:

Henry Bernard — born in Calgary Dec. 7, 1889; died in 1962; m. Isabel Taylor in 1918. 4 children. Charles Llewellyn Leigh — born in Calgary Mar. 12, 1891. (dec.) m. Alvira Clark in 1927; 1 daughter. Ernest Scudamore — born in Calgary Feb. 10, 1892; died in 1961; m. Gertrude McDonald. Desmond St. Clair — born in Innisfail Feb. 16, 1894; killed in action in France Apr. 4, 1916. Frederick Morton — b. Mar.3, 1896; died 1966; m. Susie Berry 1918, 1 girl; m. Mable Winnifred King 1930, 2 girls. Mary (Mollie) Barbara Kathleen — b. Apr. 28, 1897; died 1922; m. Alexander Macdonald in 1916; 1 son. Norah Helen — b. Feb. 1, 1898; lives in Vancouver; m. Bernard Allen Heeney; 6 children. Alfred Ewan — b. July 6, 1899; died 1902. Vivian Lizette — b. Feb.21, 1901; lives in Nanaimo; m. Hugh Roberts Gray 1926. Henrietta Caroline Alice — b. May 14, 1904; lives in Red Deer; m. John Frederick Day 1931; 2 sons; m. Charles Ralph Parker 1963. William Godfrey Septimus — b. in Red Deer Aug. 27, 1907; lives in Victoria; m. Pearl Harper; 2 sons. Yule Christine Helliwell — b. in Red Deer Dec. 25, 1910; lives in Victoria.

GERRARD STORY by Mrs. Verna Gerrard

Mr. and Mrs. Alex Gerrard settled in the Innisfail area in 1919.

Alexander Gerrard was born in Aberdeenshire, Scotland in 1889. At the age of twenty-two, he decided to leave his native land and go adventuring in Canada. He worked on Ewans' horse ranch in Saskatchewan looking after Clydesdales for a short time.

He went back to Scotland in 1912 and married Janetta Elphinstone from Aberdeenshire. They were married January, 1913 and sailed for Canada in March. Mrs. Gerrard remembers that the country was a gloomy picture to her at this time.

They got their first job on a farm near Hamiota, Manitoba working for a bachelor. Mrs. Gerrard did the cooking for the men. She recalls making her first batch of bread, which was a failure, as she didn't know how to operate the damper on the wood and coal stove. However, she persevered and soon mastered the art of becoming a very good cook.

Later that fall, their first baby was born, Alexander, nick-named Sandy, by a Scottish nurse in the local hospital. The next spring, they moved on to Saskatchewan where Mr. Gerrard had been in 1911. They worked on a farm there for two years. It was here that their second son, Wilbert, was born (Riverhurst, Saskatchewan).

In 1915 they moved to a homestead in Montana. It was a dried out area and so they went on to North Dakota where their daughter, Christina, was born at Cando, N.D. in the spring of 1919.

In search of better living conditions, the family headed north in a covered wagon in June of that year. Of course, the two boys thought it was a great adventure. Mother reports the baby was very good on

the trip...and they all stayed healthy. Their livestock for the journey was a gelding and three mares with three foals. These two teams took turns pulling the wagon. The family bought their food in stores and cooked on a campfire beside the road. They recall it cost more to feed the horses than themselves. A bad hailstorm near High River was an experience they won't forget. A farmer offered a granary for shelter while they hung their bedding on a fence to dry.

People along the way were always helpful and friendly. The journey took a month, averaging twenty miles per day. Other wagons were on the trail. Lanaways, now of Kevisville, joined the Gerrard Wagon at Calgary. When they reached Innisfail both families were impressed with the area and so decided to stop and inquire for jobs. Alex was lucky and got work at the Duke of Sutherland Ranch with Mr. James Milligan as foreman. Mrs. Gerrard made extra money by cooking for the men who were hired to help with haying and harvesting. This land is now owned by Bill Calder and Duncan Manuel. Some of the neighbors in the area at that time were McKays, Ross' and Manuels. Entertainment was mostly visiting with neighbours and card parties in the homes.

Sandy attended the Big Bend School for one summer, then he and Wilbert went to the Little Red Deer School.

After four years of working out the Gerrards decided to rent or buy their own land. One half section was purchased in the Knee Hill Valley area from Mrs. Annie Thorne of Innisfail. On this farm, a large log house had been built in 1903. All the neighbours had a big housewarming for Mrs. Thorne at that time and music and dancing were enjoyed all night. Mrs. Thorne played the piano and William Bilton played the violin. The Marsh girls were there (Mrs. William Bilton and Mrs. Jim Scott) also the Velges' and Nolans.

Gerrards lived in this house for fourteen years and found it hard to heat in the winter. It always looked homey and comfortable and had a character all its' own.

In 1928, Stanley was born. The children all attended the Steadman School now. Neighbors now were Brownells, Powells and MacKenzies.

In 1936 Gerrards built a new house which was very welcome to Mrs. Gerrard.

Everyone suffered hardships during the thirties, but made ends meet by raising turkeys and chickens and of course, milking cows. Selling eggs and cream was the main living on most farms for several years. Cream would be picked up by Paul Schaefer at the Knee Hill Store and brought it into Jacksons' in Innisfail. Paul Schaefer also operated the Knee Hill Valley grocery store, post office and meat route at that time. Mrs. Gerrard would walk the two miles to the store for groceries and mail. Mrs. Gerrard was a charter member of the Knee Hill Valley W.I. being organized in 1940.

In 1937 Chrissie Gerrard married Lester Saunders and lived two miles away on the Saunders old farm



Sandy, Stan, Chrissie and Wilbert and Mr. and Mrs. A. Gerrard.

place. The same year Sandy Gerrard married Verna Peterson from Langdon, whom he met while helping with the threshing at Ed Holts. She is the niece of Mrs. Holt.

In January 1938, a rural mail route was started in the area. Sandy got the job of mail hauler and delivered the mail for seventeen years. They farm one half mile from the Gerrards' home place.

In 1946, Alex and Janetta Gerrard took a long awaited trip back to Scotland. It was during war rations and they were pleased to get home to Canada after a few weeks there, but the people in Scotland thought it must be a wilderness they were returning to.

Mr. and Mrs. Gerrard moved to Innisfail in 1959. Stan their youngest son, a bachelor, took over the home farm.

People they knew so well in Innisfail were Dr. Dorsey, Bill Watt where they got machinery, George Walker the harness-repair man, Jack Wilson the Blacksmith. They sold grain to the Alberta Pacific elevator in Innisfail and traded oats for supplies at G.W. West. When getting supplies they would come in a wagon from Knee Hill Valley.

The Gerrards celebrated their 60th Wedding Anniversary in January, 1973 and are in good health. There are fourteen grandchildren and nineteen great grandchildren giving them a total of fifty descendants.

Alex and Janetta Gerrard had four children: Sandy who married Verna Peterson: They reside in Knee Hill Valley. Sandy and Verna have eight children: Betty (Mrs. Jack Hobbs) living at Grahamston and they have four children: Lorne married Sandra Krause. Live at Horse Shoe Lake and have two children: Melva (Mrs. Maurice Thomas, live at Pincher Creek and they have one child: Karen (Mrs. Bob Gibbons, live at Innisfail and have two children: Dave married Terry Oxtoby, live at Knee Hill Valley and have one son. Linda (Mrs. Allen Howard) living at Innisfail and they have two children. Robert and Rhonda are at home.

Wilbert married Kathleen Brownell — They live at Knee Hill Valley. They had two children: Beverly and Joy.

Chrissie married Lester Saunders and live at Innisfail. They have four children: Allen married Elenor Charlton and live at Knee Hill Valley. They have two children. Niel married Dorothy Domony. They live at Penhold and have three children.

Patricia married Greg Marshall. They live in Innisfail and have two children. Bonnie (Mrs. Brian Cummins). They live in Calgary.

Stan, a bachelor is living at Knee Hill Valley on the home place.

THE GILRAY FAMILY by Mrs. Norman Fead

Dr. E. J. Gilray first saw Innisfail when he came with Dr. H. McMichael of Buffalo, a cousin of J. MacDiarmid, where they visited in the fall of 1905. When his health was impaired through the pressures of the large hospital where he worked, Dr. Gilray, with his wife (nee Jessie Pettit, Buffalo) and daughter Dorothy, left Buffalo in 1910, purchased a half section of land about twelve miles southeast of Innisfail, and began farming. They sold the farm in the fall of 1917 and Dr. Gilray practised medicine in Innisfail until 1921 when he moved back to Cuba, New York, practicing medicine until he retired at the age of 80. He died in March 1949 at the age of 82; Mrs. Gilray in Jan. 1956 at age 84; and their daughter Dorothy in 1962, age 66. The doctor administered to the needs of many people in this community and delivered many of the babies of the district. He did not charge for these services, but many of the grateful farmers brought him grain and other farm produce, and did many odd jobs for him. Dorothy took her Grade 8 at the Knee Hill (Pleasant Valley) School with Leone MacDiarmid, teacher; later she attended Innisfail and Red Deer schools, and Normal School in Camrose. She was an only child, never married, and there are no descendants of the family.



Gilray house, 1915: Mrs. Gilray, Dorothy, Murray-Davidson



Dr. Gilray and Dorothy, 1939

THE GIOLMA STORY by Jack Giolma

My father, John B. Giolma came to eastern Canada from London, England in 1898. He was a public accountant. At that time gold was discovered in Alaska so he decided like thousands of others from all over the world to go to Alaska. The trans Canada Railway was not completed to the Pacific Coast and Port Moody was to be the terminus of the railway, so he and a party walked about one hundred miles to Port Moody. It was later that Vancouver was made the terminal.

He said when he came to Calgary there was only I.G. Baker's tent store and the Mounted Police Barracks. He was offered thirty acres of land in the heart of Winnipeg for \$1,000. He did go by ship to Alaska and got a job running the Customs office in a log cabin. This log cabin not only had the customs office, but the barracks for the Mounted Police and a bar. The log cabin had two floors similar — top and bottom. In the winter when the snow was about eight feet deep, they used the top floor and in the summer when the snow melted they used the bottom floor. Dad recalls some of the applicants that would come into the Custom's office. One was dressed in a torn old pair of overalls and had no money, so they paid his entry fee themselves. This man's name was Berry, and he located one of the richest mines in the goldfields. Another applicant was a man from London, England who was dressed as though he had just come off Bond Street, London — patent leather shoes, morning coat and derby hat. He said he was representing a big English syndicate and must get through the customs immediately. They kept this one waiting extra time and charged him a large entrance fee. Dad told that along the trail to the goldfields were thousands of dollars worth of goods discarded by the greenhorns who found their packs too heavy. At Dead Horse Pass, which was sheer ice, a number of prospectors brought horses and tried to beat them and force them to go up the trail on the ice. They fell over backwards and broke their backs, hence the name, Dead Horse Pass.

My Dad went out with a party and they found a large flock of fool hens or partridges and knocked over about one hundred with sticks. When they returned to Log Cabin Cpl. Hood, of the Mounties scared them as he told them these birds were reserved for the Eskimoes and Indians and there was a \$50. fine on each one. Then he told them to put them in the larder. Dad also went out with some prospectors and located two good copper claims for which we still have the claim certificates — which of course have expired.

After the gold rush was over Dad returned to England and then came over to the United States with my mother and sister Olive and I. He knew nothing about farming but decided that an outdoor life was the best. He bought a farm in Central Illinois. He raised a large herd of registered hogs, but they got cholera and he lost them all in about two weeks.

In 1913, after hearing about Central Alberta and reading the brochures put out by the C.P.R., we



Wedding of Jack and Kathleen Giolma; G. E. Bryan on far right.

decided to move to Alberta and arrived in 1914 and purchased an underdeveloped farm two and one-half miles east and south of Innisfail. It had been Charles Baker's (of Baker & Stitt). At this time there was only one elevator in Innisfail run by Hector McFadyen and the country was mostly raw and underdeveloped. We brought a carload of settlers' effects and mother brought her cat and I brought my dog. I cleared and broke land, just with horses and as we purchased more land, I broke with an International Titan Tractor.

Olive had been teaching in Illinois prior to coming to Innisfail. She taught at the Glenellen School and at the Oklahoma school in the Innisfail area. She later went to Redcliff, Alberta and taught school there and married Ed Wallof from Florida. They have three children: Ted, Norma and Nita. Ted enlisted in the U.S. airforce and during a bombing raid had one eye shot out. Ted now lives in California. Olive lives with Norma at Tweed, Ontario and Nita lives at San Diego, California.

I married Kathleen Bryan, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G.E. Bryan. We have one daughter Marjory. She attended school in Innisfail and is married to George Wright and they reside in Calgary. They have three children: John, Pat and Robbie.

About 1919, we bought one of the first small threshing machines in this part of the Country. It was bought from J.T. Rogers and was a Waterloo International. During the 20's I bought a 15-30 H.P. International tractor. I broke a lot of land for ourselves and also for neighbors with this tractor.

The big depression came in the early thirties. Eggs dropped to 3c a dozen — pork sold for 4c lb. and a good cow could be bought for \$10. Thousands of people, including doctors and lawyers rode the freight trains all over the country trying to get work. To make matters worse, there was a great drought during the thirties on the prairies. That was the time when people came from Saskatchewan and the east country looking for green grass with a sign on their wagons "Dried out, drowned out and to Hell out". A good many of them went about forty or fifty miles west of Innisfail and settled there.

I recall we had a good tennis club in Innisfail. There were about fifty or sixty members. There were about forty who played Badminton some being Velges, Drs. Carscallen and Wagner, Rex Tetley, O'Neill and A. Lennox. I won a cup playing badminton. My wife, Kathy also played. There was also a good curling club in Innisfail.

As things improved from the low price era, farmers commenced using combines for harvesting and soon it was impossible to get anyone to stook grain or pitch bundles. In 1960, the wife and I sold out and moved to Invermere, B.C. where I am now semi retired, but busy in contracting too.

My Mother and Father are buried at Innisfail.

AUGUST GOLDSTROM by Mrs. Lillian Parcels

In the fall of 1899 Mr. August Goldstrom and a friend, Mr. Thune (a widower; he later sold his homestead to Oliver Langevin) arrived in Innisfail from Appleton, Minn. looking for land of the much talked of 'virgin soil'. The two men spent the winter east of Innisfail building a frame house with lumber and nails brought with them. In the spring of 1900, they returned to the States and brought back with them Mrs. Goldstrom and the children — Birdie, William, Claus and Gilbert.

About that time Edward Songhurst came into the same district and put up a post office and store. Mr. Songhurst was an experienced store keeper and Mrs. Songhurst had been a teacher before they emigrated from England. As more people were settling, a school was needed by this time. One was built of logs on the property of Mr. Robert Niblock and called Hill End. The post office was also called Hill End. Mrs. Songhurst was the first teacher, as well as being mother to seven children. Her eldest son, Frank, remembers his mother carrying the smaller child, while the older ones walked with their mother the almost two miles to the little log school.

The Goldstrom family had by then been increased by the birth of Lillian. In those days there was no doctor available for childbirth, but some older women acted as midwives. Mrs. Healey told me she well remembers taking her mother, Mrs. Hornett, by horseback to be with my mother when I was born. I was surprised to know they weighed babies in those days — I weighed only 3 lbs.

We had barrels that had been brought from the States filled with tar, salt and molasses. We would crawl into these barrels to roll down one of the several hills near our home. By the time I was 8 years old, my father was a widower, left with three sons and me. Birdie was then married with two children and living in Oregon. In a couple of years, father moved to Oregon too. When Canada joined in the first World War, father and the boys moved back to Canada, and I stayed with Birdie in Portland and attended High School there. Claus joined the Canadian Army. In 1918, we all moved back to Alberta. Bill married Mable Bilton; they had two sons and one daughter. Bill is deceased; Mable lives in Innisfail. Claus (deceased) married Elizabeth Lalor, had a family of three girls and one son. She resides in Red

Deer. Gilbert died in Portland Ore. Lillian married Hugh Parcels; their family consists of two daughters and one son. Lillian and Hugh have retired from their farm and live in Innisfail.

REV. DR. GOOD B.A. M.A. D.D. by Mrs. R.G. Cornett

We came to the Innisfail district as a family. There was Father, Mother my brothers Edward, Robert, my sister Alice and I (Jenny). We came to Innisfail from Nanaimo, B.C., but we were all born in New Brunswick. It was in 1894 we arrived here and we came because of my fathers' poor health. We farmed on the land now occupied by Mr. Keith Manuel. My father was the Presbyterian minister here and had lost his health after eight years of university and thought the outdoors in a farming life would be better for him, healthwise.

Our neighbors were the Dicksons, and Burns families. We were not good farmers as we had only been used to city life and knew so little about farming.

The early pioneers I remember in town was G.W. Wests' general store and another thing in that era I shall never forget was walking 3 1/2 miles to school.

My father died after being here ten years and is buried in the Innisfail Cemetery near the gate.

I have lived in Red Deer for many years and my eldest son is manager of the Gaetz-Cornett Drug Stores.

WILLIAM GORDON by W.G. Bryan

My grandfather, William Gordon and his son Robert arrived in the Grahamston district in March 1907. The rest of the family — Mrs. Gordon, daughters Isabelle, Belle and Peggy (My Mother) arrived in August of 1907. He bought a 1/2 section of land east of the Grahamston school owned by Mr. Fred Wade. William Gordon was a stone mason and brick layer in the land of his birth — Glasgow, Scotland.

He helped to build the Grahamston school. It was built of stone and is still standing today. His family attended school here, My mother (Peggy) took all her schooling at this school while the older ones had had some schooling in the old country.

Robert Gordon enlisted in 1915 along with Fred Hobbs and others. Belle went to Calgary and Isabelle married and went to England in later years.

"Grandad" went to Innisfail every Saturday, weather permitting, for his groceries. He drove a team and sleigh or a buggy. One could set their time by his arrival as he was always very set in his ways. Grandmother didn't go to town much as she did not like the long road. She was a very kind-hearted lady and all her grandchildren loved her very much. She always dreamed of going back to Glasgow but wasn't able to fulfill this dream.

William Gordon raised purebred hereford cattle and always had a few milk cows around. He did all the farm work himself except threshing until about 1937. It was then that my Dad (Alan Bryan) and our family assisted him. He sold out in 1943 and went to live with his daughter in Calgary. This same farm is

now owned and operated by Gilbert Bryan (a grandson).

My grandmother passed away in 1942 and grandad in 1946. They are both buried in the Innisfail Cemetery.

CHARLES HENRY GRAY by Thelma Hawksley-Hill & Mabel Bragg

Charles Henry Gray was born in Elling, County of Middlesex, England in 1873. He came to Canada and farmed in Ontario. In 1897 he married Clara Alice Irwin from County of Dufferin, Township of Mulmer, Ontario. In 1898 the 'Call of the West' beckoned and he started to homestead east of Innisfail and later moved in to the town.

He worked in a hardware store owned by Percy Goulter and later by a Mr. Rogers. He built his own home in the town and lived there until we moved to Edmonton in 1914. Our father was a very good provider. He was an excellent hunter and there was no lack of wild game, birds, fish, etc. augmented by wild berries and fruit. Both father and mother were wonderful gardeners with the result that there was a good supply of such produce available. Winter was naturally thought of and a good supply put away for cold days in root houses, canning, etc. We always had a cow and chickens and there were pretty good stores in town which were there earlier than when our parents came.

Our nearest and dearest neighbors were the Lauders. We have been very close friends with all surviving members of this family through the years. Then the Lundys (butcher) — they had two girls. The McLeans, once mayor of the Town of Innisfail, with four children, all good friends of ours, Daniel, Irene, Keith and Bertha. The Bamsies, the McArthurs of the Furniture Company, J.B. McMillan, a cattle buyer, Billy Wilson, Dray and Cartage business, Dr. Membry and family, Dr. Allen and family and the W.R. Wilsons (banker).

For recreation we went walking, riding, berry picking, picnics, swimming at Mud Lake in the summer (hiking there and back), skating in the winter on Moore's slough, playing games on the street corner involving all of the neighborhood, talent shows — ever so many things and just not enough time to do them all.

There was only the one school, a red brick just east of the town and up a short incline from where we



Charlie Gray and Percy Goulter with the first Buick in Innisfail.

lived and across a creek through a lovely wooded area, smelled so good on rainy days. Schoolmates: two Bryan girls Kathleen and Octavia, Myrtle and Dorothy Champ, Bessie McCallum, Dorothy Kitley Evelyn Wilson, Bertha and Anna Smith, Harold and Bursley Moore, Dorothy Cooke, Dorothy and Hibert Fairly, Irene McLean, Dorothy and Muriel Lundy, Jack and Kathleen Rogers, Ernest, Anna and Bobby Wilson and Aubry McMillan. School principal Mr. Aylesworth; teachers Miss Halstead, Miss Victoria Andreson and two Miss Pierces.

Early families we remember: Dr. Lauder and entire family; Reverend Havershon, Baptist Minister; Reverend Short and family, Presbyterian Minister; Barnett, lawyer; Fumertons, store owner; Hiram McDermott, jeweller; West's General store; Dr. Tweddle, dentist; Ed Dodd, postmaster; Percy Goulter, Hardware store and later became Rogers' Innisfail Hardware; McArthurs Furniture Store and Undertaker; Dr. Grimshaw, Dr. George and Dr. Allen; Mr. Angerman of the Royal Northwest Mounted Police.

Charles Gray passed away in 1955 and Clara Alice Gray in 1967. Both are buried in Murrayville Cemetery, Murrayville, B.C.

Children:

Thelma Emily married William Hawksley-Hill, M.D. He came to Innisfail in 1910 and worked for the Canadian Bank of Commerce and later went to Edmonton in 1914 where he entered the U. of A. Did his first years as a medical student there and then to McGill from where he graduated in medicine and returned to Alberta after serving with the Navy during the first World War. He practiced in rural parts of Alberta. After taking his Post Graduate course he became Calgary's first Public Health doctor and continued in this capacity until his death in 1963. They had two daughters, Margaret Alice Haigh, who has three sons and lives at Campbell River, B.C. with her husband, Jim, whose occupation is in the motor car business in Courtenay; and Thelma Robin Garteke, who has three daughters and resides with her husband Lieut. Col. Robert Garteke, recently retired, at Manotick, Ontario.

Mabel Winnifred, living in Winnipeg, Manitoba, married to Arthur L. Bragg, former accountant with the Canadian National Railways, now retired.

Gladys Marguerite, living in Chase, B.C. married to Charles S. Simpson, retired dentist. One son Charles presently residing in Calgary, Alberta.

FRED & FANNY GREEN by Mrs. F.T. Green

Fred and Fanny Vaughn Green and their sons John (Jack), Frederick (Ted) and William (Bill), accompanied by Hector and Sarah Vaughn Brown and family came to the Innisfail district in 1900 from Milton, Ontario. The Brown family soon returned to Ontario, then settled in Plenty, Saskatchewan.

Fred Green was a carpenter and stone mason and while Jack did the family farming Fred worked at his trade. He worked on many of the early large buildings in Calgary. Bristol Center said Fred Green built the big beautiful barn on his farm in 1907. In



Green Family: Gladys, Ella, Bill and Ted

1918 Fred retired to Lousana where he died on March 12, 1929. He is buried in the Great Bend Cemetery (near Content Bridge) beside his wife Fanny Vaughan Green who died in July 1909 at the age of 48 years.

Ted and Bill Green first attended school in Innisfail; later when the family moved to a rented farm they attended Aberdeen school and later they attended school at Hillend until the family moved to the Trenville district in 1905 (four miles east of Lousana). One of Ted's memories of school at Hillend was at the time of the wedding of Gordon and Lottie Healy; each child at school contributed five cents towards a wedding present for them. A few years ago Mrs. Healy told Ted she still had that precious gift.

Jack Green became a successful pioneer farmer. He did not marry. Jack died on March 21, 1958 at the age of 71 years. He is buried in the Lousana Cemetery.

Frederick Thomas (Ted) Green married Gladys M. Hope of Midnapore, Alta. in 1919. Gladys taught at Calder School in 1918, later coming to Lousana. Ted became a water well driller and worked in the Central Alberta area for almost fifty years. At the time of his retirement he was the oldest registered driller belonging to the Alberta Water Well Drillers Association. He retired in 1967. Ted and I celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary in the Lousana Hall on April 4, 1970. We have four children: Herbert; Gordon; Dorothy (McWham); and Lois (Craig).

Ted and I attended the 50th Anniversary of Hillend where Ted met many of his friends; and we met many friends at the Innisfail Celebration of a few years ago.

For several years after moving to Trenville, the Greens still did their main shopping in Innisfail.



50th Wedding Anniversary of the Green's. Ted Green playing lute and Bob Tarzwell the violin.

With the team and wagon the trip took three days; the first day as far as the Bristol Center home, who was a distant cousin of the Greens, where they spent the night; the next day for shopping and renewing friendships of former years the third day returning to Trenville. They often stopped at the home of the Durands east of Pine Lake for a rest and visit with the young people before resuming their trip home.

Ted passed away on May 4, 1971. He was 75 years old and is buried in the Lousana Cemetery.

William Henry (Bill) Green was a trained garage mechanic and service station operator. He owned and operated the Lousana Garage for many years until due to ill health sold his business to Bill Greenwood, our famous chuckwagon driver, moved to Surrey, B.C. where he worked in a service station until his retirement. He married Ella Baillie of Elnora in May 1925. They have two sons: Robert William Green of Forest Lawn, Calgary and James Alexander Green of Manning, Alberta. Bill died on Jan. 15, 1972 at the age of 75 years. He is buried in Surrey, B.C.

MR. & MRS. THOS. GREEN by Mrs. J. McAllister

In the year of 1887, Mr. & Mrs. Thos. Green, both over sixty years of age, accompanied by their younger daughter, Rhoda, came to the West from Tiffield, England. They came as far as Calgary by train and completed the journey to the Penhold district by wagon. Mrs. Green was ill when they arrived in Calgary so was fortunate to get a ride north later in the buggy with Mr. L.M. Sage.

They came first to the cabin of Ebenezer W. Green, a son who with his wife and three children, had emigrated the previous year. The first spring came early and potatoes were planted too early, being frozen shortly after sprouting. This was serious as more seed was difficult to procure. During the first years, supplies were brought from Calgary by wagon pulled by oxen. Quite a good sized two-storey log house was erected. Windows, and other building essentials were brought from Calgary by wagon as the R.R. didn't come until 1891.

Besides their son Ebb, they had two other children in the west, Mary who joined her brother Rev. A.E. Greene in British Columbia.

In 1889 another son George came west. He filed on a homestead about 1-1/2 miles west of Penhold.

Near the turn of the century about 1901, Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Green sold their half section to Mr. Wm. Pennington and they stayed for a while with their younger daughter Mrs. W. Kennings. They then went to S.D. to their elder daughter Mrs. Geo. F. Hopkins. About 1905 they returned to Alberta for a year or two before going to Vancouver where they spent the remainder of their lives.

Thos. Green was a shareholder in the first Innisfail Creamery. Because he was a farmer and livestock dealer in the old country he was always interested in good stock and he was one of the swine judges at the first agricultural fair in Red Deer.

Mr. Ebb Green was instrumental in the founding of the first school at Penhold and was the first chairman of the school board.

His wife passed away shortly after the birth of their youngest daughter, Ruby, in 1895. When there was the diphtheria epidemic his older children, Sidney, Dora and Etta died. It was then that Mr. Green and his youngest daughter Ruby went to B.C. He did return to Alberta some time later making his home with his brother George until his passing in 1931. He was buried in the Innisfail Cemetery.

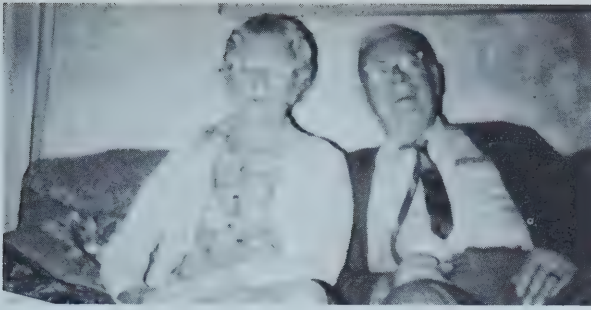
DR. CHARLES J. GREENE

I was born in Moose Jaw, Sask, Nov. 3, 1894. I received schooling in Moose Jaw, Duncan B.C. and attended normal in Vancouver. I taught for a year at Duncan — the same school where I had been a student. I joined the army in W.W. 1 and while walking in France one day I looked up and decided I would rather fly, so transferred to the Royal Flying Corps and became a pilot. Like many others I am a Vimy veteran.

When I returned from war I taught another year and through the good advice of an uncle decided to take up dentistry. I attended the Royal College of Dental Surgeons in Toronto.

In 1924 I came to Innisfail on the invitation of Dr. Dorsey. He said there was a great opportunity here for a dentist. I had worked for a dentist in Toronto, but wished to be on my own. This seemed like the opportunity I was waiting for. I borrowed some money from a brother in Sask and arrived in Innisfail Nov. 1st. It was cold. I went to the doctors' office — no fire — he arrived half an hour later and lighted the fire. What a place! I only had \$2.00 left and couldn't get out. I had with me a letter from a dentist in Red Deer who wanted to sell out, but I couldn't even get there to see him for financial reasons. I discovered there were no lights till after 4 p.m. so I had to run the drill by foot action. I later put in batteries and ran a drill by a 6 volt battery which I charged at night. Dr. Dorsey let me stay in his home and I was very comfortable. I was invited to sing in the Presbyterian choir. I was kept busy in the office even if I did have to put a fire on in the morning. Later we moved to the Bank of Commerce building (upstairs). I had become engaged to Helen Hodge in Toronto before I left and we were married in Calgary, Aug. 1, 1925. Dr. Dorsey was the best man and the Dorsey's drove us to Banff for our honeymoon. We were back to work the next day. We rented a small furnished house from Mrs. Munton for \$25 per mo. As soon as she heard that a baby was on the way we were told she wanted the house. We then moved near the school. I remember going to all the auction sales to get furniture. Margaret was our first born.

I started giving anaesthetics for Dr. Dorsey and for Dr. Wagner. I felt that I should be on my own and bought an old building on main street and converted it into a house and office. We had it half up on stilts to put in a basement when it fell into the basement — more expense and I had no money. Fortunately I was



Dr. and Mrs. C. J. Greene

able to borrow from a private person. The banks wouldn't lend me money. I was able to save now and no rent to pay. Then another disaster — in the spring the slough of Moores' broke away and flooded town. I was in the direct path and had a foot of water in my building. It took a year before it dried enough to sand the floors. That was the dirty thirties. I took in meat and chickens for dental work and Nell cooked and canned it. Eventually, the Co-Op wanted to buy my office for their expansion and so I sold to them and they built me an office in their new building.

I wanted to retire and sold my practice. I had practiced dentistry in Innisfail for 43 years — retiring in 1967.

Margaret (Mrs. George Bertram) has 4 sons including twins. She had a business education and they reside in Calgary. My second daughter, Doris, has her degree in nursing and is in Calgary. Our only son Ian, has his M.A. and is employed by the Alberta Gov't.

Unfortunately, I lost my wife in 1972, but I am fortunate to have my 2 daughters and son who keep an eye on me.

WILLIAM CHARLES GRIFFITHS by Mrs. Iva Berke

William Charles Griffiths came to the Innisfail district a ward of the famous Bernardo Boys' home of England. It was a tough row to hoe for a little boy of twelve years, to come out to Canada and work under a hard master learning farming. The winters were cold, the hours long and hard. His boss was none too generous with food and didn't supply a little boy with much in the way of warm clothes or shoes. Badly frozen feet were just one of the many hardships he suffered before coming into town to live with Mr. Constantine. He first went to Mr. Croxford. His farm was west of town. When Mr. Croxford sold his farm, Charlie came to George Constantines'. He found his first happy home with the Constantines in Canada. He took a job with J.F. McInnes farm near DeWinton and was there for some time before returning to Innisfail. He then took a job with Currie and Constantine. Later he took a position with the McBride Hardware in Calgary. He remained there for two years.

In 1913 he started with the C.P.R. in Innisfail with F.W. Bye as agent. He transferred to Banff, to Rocky Mountain House and back to Innisfail on March 4,

1916 and became assistant agent from that time until his retirement. He gave 40 years service to the C.P.R. He retired from the C.P.R. in 1953 and then joined the staff of the Innisfail Post Office.

On June 3, 1922 he married the former Marion Elizabeth Shields. They had two children: William and Iva Louise (Mrs. Lloyd Berke).

Charlie had no schooling after coming out to Canada, but made his way and became a successful man and a valued employee of the greatest transportation system in the world. He was a 25 yr. veteran of the Order of Railroad Telegraphers, a life member of the Innisfail Fire Brigade which he joined in 1907 and was secretary for many years.

W.C. Griffiths passed away Dec. 18, 1963. His wife Marion is now in Red Deer as is his son William. Iva and her family reside in Wetaskiwin.



Charlie Griffith

DAVID JAMES GUARD by Eunice Freeman

David James Guard was born in Summersetshire, England on July 9, 1867 and moved to Kansas, U.S.A. with his parents in 1870. Dad married Mabelle Estella Chamberlain. She was born on March 15, 1880 in Moscow, Idaho where she attended normal school. Dad had clerked in a general store and then was dairyman on a dairy ranch in Washington.

Mother and Dad were in search of a dryer climate that would agree with their eldest son, and because of correspondence with a friend, George Kitley, they decided to come to Alberta. An earthquake shock hastened their decision to leave Friday Harbour, San Juan Island, Washington.

Father travelled with his wife and four children; two friends accompanied their two horses, dog, and household effects and they arrived in Innisfail on Feb. 10, 1910. On arrival they stayed with Kitleys on "Bingo Farm". Dad fed cattle for Mr. Kitley and put the crop in that spring. Then he went looking for land to settle on and bought a quarter section from P.L. Grasse where they made their home until about 1933.

Dad got his start in cattle by taking some cows on shares from Mr. Lockwood. There were many hard-



Mr. and Mrs. Guard's Wedding Portrait

ships in those early days but folks made do with what they had or did without.

One of the tragic stories that my sisters recall is of the accident of one of Dad's only two horses that he depended on for horsepower in the first year on his farm. This mare broke her hind leg. They couldn't afford to shoot a horse, so mother and father 'set' this mare's leg and put it in splints. The leg healed and in due time she was put to work again. She also raised several colts. Good neighbors loaned Dad some young horses to break and he used them while his own horse was on the mend.

Our farm was 13 miles east and 1 mile south of Innisfail. They kept a stopping house for people travelling from Innisfail to Elnora and also boarded the local school teachers for many years. When the telephones were first being installed in the Calder area, Bill Mallinson and crew boarded at Mom and Dad's place. They have told me of throwing pennies in a tub of water, then the telephone men put the electric current from the telephone batteries in the tub and asked the folks looking on to pick up the coins. The kids thought this was great fun.

In the summer there were the school picnics and dances after. The benches along the sides would be covered with the wee ones who couldn't stay awake, covered with a mother's coat and sound asleep, unaware of the banging and thumping of the chording on the piano and the tune from a violin. In the summer months a student minister would conduct church services in the school Sunday evening. My mother was organist for the services for many years. She also



L. to R.: Mrs. Guard, Estelle, Mr. Guard, Gordon, Lucille, Stanley.

played any music required for the school Christmas concerts too. The nearest neighbors of my folks at the farm were the Joseph Sargeants and William Foresters. I can remember Mr. Huggins doing step-dancing at concerts.

My sisters tell me they amused themselves with a couple of calves they had. They broke them to ride and even used a bridle on them.

From 1916 to the early twenties my sisters worked out and they received twenty dollars a month. In about 1934-35 I worked in a coffee shop 12 to 18 hours a day for ten dollars a month.

All the family attended Calder School. My sisters' first teacher was Miss Mabel Hall. Their school mates were the Sargeants, Thurstons, Laydens, Fergusons, Whethams, Foresters, Kirkhams, Calverts, Sparks, Harrisons, Hibberts, John Ashmore. My sisters and brothers were all finished school before I started. My first teacher was Miss Nesbitt; then Miss Amos, Miss Mitchell, Miss Wade, Miss Neithal (Jessie Sparks), and my last teacher was Mr. H.B. Duke. When we lost two schools by fire I went to the home of Miss Whealon each day for about four months.

Congratulatory messages were received on our parent's 50th Anniversary. Mother will be remembered for her great artistic arrangements of flowers, in her home as well as in the garden. She excelled at handwork...."

Our mother passed away Aug. 30, 1957 and Dad on March 26, 1965; both interred in Innisfail.

Children:

Evelyn Estella — born Dec. 12, 1898; married Joe Kirkham Dec. 18, 1918. Two sons: Johnny and Carl. Joe Kirkham died Dec. 1968 at Innisfail.

Mabelle Lucille — born Apr. 11, 1900; married George Kirkham Jan. 9, 1924. George died in 1924. One son, George. Lucille married Raymond Branson in 1927; six sons, one daughter: Loyal, Merle, Ivan, Audrey, Charles, Earl, James. Live at Innisfail.

James Gordon — born November 10, 1904; married Marvel Hunt of Nobleford, Alta. Four sons, 1 daughter: James, Clarice, Stanley, Larry, Verle. Live at Windfield, Alberta.

William Stanley — born Mar. 23, 1909; married Kitt Hill, a WWII war bride. Children: Richard, Linda; live at Haney, B.C.

Eunice Grace — born May 7, 1918; married Stan Freeman Sept. 1, 1939; Three sons — Devery, David, Jack. Live at Innisfail.

Reported that Constable J.D. Lauder is 6 inches larger around the chest since his new overcoat with brass buttons arrived. Doc looks something like a policeman now and the coat is a credit to its' makers, Gilmore and Pitts.

THE CHARLIE GUNSTON STORY by Naida Mundie

Mr. Charlie Gunston was born in Guelph, Ontario, and came west in 1894 to work for the Rosenbargo

family; in 1896 he married Mary Elizabeth Rosenberg and they went to Vancouver. Mr. Gunston was one of the thousands of men who went north on the Gold Rush of 1898.

Mrs. Gunston worked in a tent company making tents for the men who went north. Then she came back to her home here in Alberta to await her husband's return from the north. He returned home in the summer of 1901 to tell many tales of the frozen north country.

Mr. and Mrs. Gunston took up a homestead in the Mayton district. Then some years later (about 1907) the family moved to the Charlie White place in the Steadman district. Jack Mundie now owns this land. A few years later in 1913 they moved a few miles north to the Will Gunston farm where they farmed until Mr. Gunston's passing in 1937. Mrs. Gunston and her son Harry farmed on in the Knee Hill Valley for many years. The Gunstons had one son Harry and two daughters, Marjorie and Lottie.



Mr. and Mrs. Gunston

Harry married Mable Ross and had one son Peter. Both Mr. & Mrs. Harry Gunston have passed away. After Mr. Harry Gunston married, his mother went to live with her daughter, Mrs. Norman Smith, where she lived until her death at age 96. She was very alert and had a wonderful personality and was a joy to all who knew her.

Marjorie married Roy Kaiser of Whitelaw, Alberta, where she still lives. Mr. Kaiser passed away in April 1973. They have two sons and three daughters. Lyle and Jim, both live at Whitelaw. Beverly (Cunningham) lives in Grande Prairie. Gail (Penner) lives in Langley, B.C. Kay (Sexsmith) lives in Prince George.

Lottie married Norman Smith of the Horse Shoe Lake district. Mrs. Norman Smith passed away in 1969 and Mr. Smith passed away in March 1973. They have three daughters: Naida (Mundie) of Innisfail; Grace (Gillrie) of Didsbury; Joyce (Sparks) of Innisfail.

The home farm is now owned by the Mr. Bill Bennett family.

HOUSES



Original log house, built prior to 1897 at Durham's.



Gillingham home; Mr. Gillingham married a Japanese Tea Planter's daughter; they had eight children. This house was later owned by John Wilson.



Inside Calder's homestead home.



A year's supply of wood. Wilf Edgar, Bob Marcil and Bill Edgar.



Outdoor plumbing at the homestead.

THE HALL STORY by Velma & Lyle Hall

Our Mother and Father, Maud L. and Charles Latimer Hall, came to Innisfail in 1912. We came from Petrolia, Ontario where father was born in 1883. Mother was born in 1884 on Pelee Island, Ontario. Dad was the only one of eight, born in Canada, the others being born in Ireland.

There were already some relatives here — Grandpa and Grandma Cousins and family. Therefore, it was decided that this would be a good place to start in the West. We came by train and Dad had a carload of horses. The trip took the better part of a week and Lyle was five years old and Velma three years old.

Dad had been an engineer working in oilfields at Pelee Island. This was where he met and married Mother in 1904.

Upon our arrival in Innisfail it was spring, and there was mud everywhere. Dad opened a blacksmith shop here in 1912, and was in business all his life in Innisfail. Many horses got their first shoes from Dad. Blacksmiths made their money from the chuck-holes in the roads because the horses would have to be shod, recalls Lyle.

As time went on, modern machinery took over from the horses and welding came in to be the answer so Lyle was finished school and took a welding course at Calgary and became the welder at the shop. Dad knew everyone in the district (east, west, north and south). When he wasn't in the shop he was out making a "buck" in those lean days of the late 20's and 30's. He often took a sack of potatoes or vegetables in place of money from customers. He later took up the agency for Cockshut Machinery in 1932 and was agent for Brantford Twine.

We rented some homes and paid \$10 to \$12 a month in rent and might add that it was difficult to get this much saved up. The first house we lived in was near Dodds' Lake. It was Dad and Bert Carter who did all the pipe fitting in the Power House in 1912. He was fire chief in the late 20's and some of his associates were: Tommy "Heavens' Alive" White, Frank Cole, Ken Dallas, Jack Miller, Fleet, Tom and Bill Kirkham, Frank Carpenter and D.E.W. Ewer.

Some of his particularly good friends were Sandy Dundas, George Walker, Dr. Gribble, G. Evans, John Honan, Joe and Jack Murgatroyd, Dr. Turner, Dr. Wagner and Frank Cole.

Dad bought the farm east of town from Mr. Corish. He had a harness horse in the early days too and was very interested in this sport. He was a member of the I.O.O.F. and the curling club. Mother was a Rebecca, in the Orange Lodge Ladies group and in the United Church Ladies Aid.

It was in July of 1935 that Dad passed away after a lengthy illness and was laid to rest in the Innisfail Cemetery. It was then that Mother took over the office work with Lyle and the shop continued with a blacksmith until it was sold in the late 1940's to Tom Moore.

Mrs. Hall and Velma went to Vancouver in 1949.

Lyle went to school in Innisfail with Percy Parks, Angus McKay, Sid Jensen, Murray Fox, Dorothy deLong, Bertha McLean, Mabel Wade, Reggie Westgate, Alfred Daw, Frank Malcolm and Charlie and John Alden. Lyle said he was strapped by all the teachers but his favorite teacher was Nan Hodge. Velma liked all the teachers and her favorite principals were Mr. A. Reeves and Mr. Colter. Her favorite teacher was Miss Graves. Velma attended school with Violet Scott, Lena and Hazel Pendergast, May Marks, Nellie Smith, Earl Beattie, Russell Fox, Archie Murgatroyd, Katie and Marg Thompson, Lois Kremer and Dorothy Mayo. It was in 1928 that Velma went in training at the Calgary General Hospital and then went on staff at the Innisfail hospital and remained there until 1949. She was Matron of the Innisfail Hospital from 1943 to 1949.



Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Hall with grandsons Jim and Jack Hall

One of the nurses Velma worked with here was Carrie-Jane Lyons who later became the Mayor of Prince George. The doctors she worked with were Drs. Carscallen, Wagner, Dorsey and Marmer. Velma taught many First Aid classes in town.

The whole family were ardent curlers and Charlie Hall was well known for his "Haymakers". It was natural ice then and sometimes very heavy. Lyle made the statement that Fleet Kirkham is the best sports promotor Innisfail has ever had or ever will have. Lyle was good in sports and was involved with much as well as working in the shop. He was on the hockey and baseball teams and had quite a "pitching

arm". He started out on the team as bat-boy and mascot. In hockey he was quite a guy.

Lyle was nicknamed "Ying" by "Ed the Mens Man" because Lyle always seemed to be doing a lot of dealing with the Chinamen. Lyle recalls the time when Williams and Little had a store and Lyle was charging ice-cream wafers, strawberries and "weinies" — all summer long. Charlie Hall got the bill and asked Lyle if he had taken this liberty of charging — "No" replied Lyle, so he went down to the store to see George Williams who gave a different answer than Lyle's. So — Lyle got kicked back two blocks and this ended not only his lying days, but his charge-up days too!

The night of the Armistice in 1918, Jack Wilson, the Blacksmith, put powder in between the anvils and had explosions to celebrate the occasion. This went on for hours. Lyle also recalls that Jack Jr. was a left-handed pool player. Other things Lyle remembers are: Joe Carl and how he told of going to jump across the Red Deer River and got half way across and changed his mind and so came back. Joe Carl found a watch he had lost 17 years previously and it was still running. Joe was a carpenter by trade and built a barn for Charlie Hall with a 28' pitch. Joe painted and built it for \$40.00 Joe always worked in his mocasin rubbers.

The best "square reader" in town was Tom Varty. Tom used to say that the only reason there are such things as screw nails is to assist the carpenters in taking them out. Yee Cum was the front end man and "Crabapple Joe" the cook, at the Club Cafe. Wong Wo had the New York Cafe and Wong's cousin was a big fellow and would chase kids with a long knife. Dick Kremer would do anything. "I can remember too," says Lyle, "there being car races at the Sand Hills (later known as the Golf Course). I was always interested in curling, hockey, baseball and was town Councillor and belonged to the "Kansas City Card Club" held at Ludlams along with Sid Jensen, Joe Archibald and most folks in town. I can remember too, the bets that used to go on at the Royal Hotel window on how fast Rev. Orton or Miss Yeoman would move. Those betting would be Kenny Kerr, Ludlam, Bob Sharp, Sandy Dallas, Charlie Beer and the Varty boys. Dr. Gribble and Goomer Evans used to promote dog races. They were held at the Bankers' corner. Frank Malcolm had the best dog and always got the prizes. The Vartys had fighting bull dogs. I remember too, when they had street buyers — two or four horses with wagons coming mostly from the East Country would come to G.W. West's elevator and then all the street buyers would come grabbing samples of grain and offering different prices. It was most competitive and fun to watch. "Wampus" Strong was one of them."

Lyle married Catherine (Tat) Rogers in 1931 in Edmonton and they have two sons: Jim and Jack. Jim is manager of Canadian Freightways in Terrace, B.C., married with three children. Jack received his degree in Pharmacy at U.B.C. and is now manager of

one of the Owl Drug Stores in Vancouver. He is married with two children.

When Mrs. Hall and Velma retired to Vancouver, Lyle and family moved to the farm and carried on mixed farming as well. Then they became motel owners in Kelowna and sold this in 1965 and went to Vancouver.

Mrs. Hall passed away suddenly in February, 1965 and is buried at Forest Lawn in Vancouver.

LEWIS HALL by Amelia (Hall) Calvert

My father, Lewis Hall, was born in Sheffield, England on July 31, 1856. He came to Canada and was a farm hand in Woodstock, Ontario, where he married Elsie Laing (born in Scotland). They had four children — Annie, Albert, Amelia and Frances. My mother's father, Mr. Frank Laing, had settled in the Innisfail area, and in 1896 Dad brought his family out to homestead in the Hill End district.

I've heard him talk about riding horseback, along with some of the neighbors, (Nell Coulthwaite one of them), into Innisfail to pick up what supplies they could afford. As soon as there were a few acres broken, he grew some grain for his livestock. We lived in a log house that had a sod roof, that leaked for days after it stopped raining. The only dry place was under the table and that was where the flour and sugar had to be kept.

The main recreation was gathering at neighbours' homes for visiting, cards, and dancing to the violin music played by Billie Smith. What I remember best is going to Grannie Laings' with father for Sunday dinners with the team and sleigh. He would heat bricks in the oven for foot warmers and wrap us up in lots of blankets, for it was a six mile drive.

Some of the early families I remember: August Goldstrom — they farmed, had a threshing outfit and did most of the stack threshing for miles around using an old one cylinder Mogul I.H.C. tractor for power. Songhursts — Hill End Store and Post Office; Charlie Bilton — ran a country store; Sniders — had the post office after Songhursts; Ted Bakers, Charlie Biggs, Asa Ford, Brushes, Reno, Bob Niblock, Ed Hills, DeWilltons, Bob Wells, Harry Partingtons, Leonard Hornett, Eastmans, Archie Camerons, Arthur Archibalds, Arthur Bakers, Laings, Tom Days. We attended the old log Hill End School. My teachers were Mr. Healy, Mr. Smith and Miss Asseltine — I went to Grade 6.

My father, Lewis Hall passed away July 10, 1916 and my mother Elsie Ellen (Laing) Hall passed away Nov. 3, 1899; both are buried in the Innisfail Cemetery.

Children:

Annie Levena Hall was born May 23, 1892 in Ontario. She married Donald J. McMillan on Dec. 6, 1916. They had two children, Robert and Edith. Annie died in May 1927 and is buried in Innisfail.

Albert Ernest Hall was born April 20, 1893 in Ontario and passed away on April 10, 1917.

Amelia was born Sept. 18, 1895 in Ontario. I married William Calvert in Red Deer on April 7, 1915. We had six children: Joe, Elsie, Lewis, Gor-

don, Delbert and Ellen. My husband passed away on Jan. 22, 1971.

Frances Ellen was born Nov. 3, 1899 at home on the Hill End district homestead. She married Rolland Morris on June 27, 1921. They had five children: Arthur, Robert, Percy, Mary and Edith.

TOM AND MATT HAMILTON by T.G. Hamilton

Thomas Hamilton was born at Avonside, Lanarkshire, Scotland, in the parish of Avondale in 1865. Mathew was born in 1867 and had a twin sister, Margot, who came to Innisfail in 1953 where she lived with Margaret Hamilton until the time of her death in 1958.

The brothers, Tom and Matt, left Scotland in 1892 and came by boat and rail to Innisfail, settling in the Horse Shoe Lake district. They had been raised on a dairy farm in Scotland. In those first difficult years, when money was not plentiful, much of their food consisted of prairie chicken and jack rabbit. Before they became established with their own homesteads and cattle raising, they did custom plowing with a team of oxen in summer and worked in lumber camps in winter. Their first shelter was a log shack with a sod roof which they built in the summer of 1892. In the early 1900's they got logs out in the west country and had them sawed for the house and barn they built around 1905-06.

Some of their first neighbors were the Nesbit family who lived on Spruce Coulee; Angus and Duncan Mather; the Jake Schaefer family; and Gus Roper, who was a life-long friend of the Hamilton Brothers.

In 1907 Mathew Hamilton married Margaret Rosenbargo. The Rosenbargos came to the Mayton district from their Ontario farm near Rannoch, in the county of St. Mary's, Ontario. Mathew and Margaret Hamilton had two children: Jean, who is now Mrs. Gordon Haug and lives in Kelowna, B.C.; and Tom Jr., who operates the same farm where the brothers settled in 1892.

Between the years of 1912 and 1915, Tom and Matt became interested in the breeding of Percheron horses and in the years that followed bred some of the top Percherons in Canada, showing them at the summer shows in Alberta and Saskatchewan. In 1921 they had the honor of showing the grand champion percheron mare at the Chicago International.

Their first venture in the purebred cattle business came about when they attended the dispersal sale of the herd of Duncan Marshall, who at that time was Minister of Agriculture for Alberta and was instrumental in the founding of the Olds Agricultural College. At this sale they bought some Shorthorn females to found a herd of Shorthorn cattle that was to become some of the top show cattle in Canada. At the Calgary Bull sale, the Rannoch Herd won six Grand Champions and one Reserve over a period of nine years.

In 1951 Mathew and Margaret Hamilton retired to Innisfail and in 1952 Mathew passed away at the age of 85; Tom passed away in 1954 at the age of 89. Margaret Hamilton continued to live in her home in

Innisfail with her oldest sister, Charlotte Rosenbargo and Mathews' sister Margot. Charlotte passed away in 1957 and Margot in 1958. Between the years of 1965 to 1969 Margaret made her home part-time in Kelowna with Jean and with Tom on the farm. Today, although confined to a wheel chair, she is in good health and makes her home in Valley Park Manor in Red Deer. She will be 94 years old in September, 1973.

Tom Jr. married Grace Bradshaw in Sept. 21, 1949. They have four children: Gavin, Wendy, Jamie and Robbie. They continue with the Shorthorn herd. Tom purchased a herd sire in Scotland in 1949 and in 1951 purchased some females in Scotland. Gavin, third generation on the farm, is very interested and has travelled across Canada and as far as Texas showing Rannoch cattle. At 17 years of age he was at the Toronto Exhibition showing cattle by himself.

JOHN WILSON HANDFORD by Roy Handford

John Wilson Handford and his chum Laurie Hammock came to Canada from London in 1907. They worked two years in Ontario & Manitoba before coming to Innisfail in 1909. When they were working near Virden, Man, they learned much about farming from a man they called "Old Buck". It was really something they expected from a hired man in those days. They had to be up and out of bed before six in the morning, work at least 10 hrs. a day and if the Buck family were out and returning late, they had to be prepared to unhitch and look after the team.

Wilson Handford had a brother here when they arrived (Percy Handford) and he worked at the Bank of Commerce. The two newcomers filed on a homestead which was some 5 miles east of Elnora. Here they built a tar paper shack, a corral and a small barn, purchased some cows and a team of 16 hundred pound oxen which my father drove with ordinary horse harness, but put the collars on upside down because of the difference in the shape of the necks. He handled them with bits in their mouths and driving lines. It was with these oxen that he ploughed and broke his first required cultivated land and made some trips back and forth to Innisfail. Pulling a load, their speed was under 4 mi. per hr. The road at that time was just a wagon trail winding around the sloughs of which there were many. If it rained the ruts became very muddy. My father told me that on several occasions, either while ploughing or on the road, they encountered heel-flies. I think any old-time farmer knows about heel flies and cattle. Anyway, he said the oxen would head for the nearest slough where they would wade in belly deep and would stay until some sense told them it was safe to proceed and then they would start off again without any further persuasion.

It was in Innisfail that Wilson Handford met Phyllis Alberta Bryan who was the eldest daughter of George E. and Ethyl Bryan. After a courtship of approximately two years Phyllis and Wilson were married Sept. 12, 1912.



Father and Sons, World War II: Mr. Handford, Alan, Roy, Geoff, George and Ed.

Phyllis' father, G.E. Bryan, had been station agent and owned the farm known as the Grange. This place bordered the town on the east. Here he raised cattle, sheep, horses and pigs. Here Phyllis learned to ride side-saddle. Here, she learned to care for stock and to milk cows. She took lessons on the piano from Mrs. (Dr.) George and lessons in water color painting from Mrs. Spurgeon.

Wilson Handford in partnership with Sam Hornett freighted lumber from Innisfail to Elnora 1910-1912.

Phyllis and Wilson Handford remained in Innisfail until early December following their marriage and then, driving a team and bob sleigh with a cow tied behind, they started out for the homestead. My mother told of how they wished that they weren't leading the cow as it made the travel so slow. They needed her however to provide them with milk and cream through the coming winter. The weather turned bitterly cold shortly after they started out, and mother riding wrapped up in blankets and sitting on a bed of straw in the bottom of the sleigh and even though she had a charcoal foot warmer could feel the cold seeping into her body. She would start falling to sleep, so my father made her get out of the sleigh and walk for a while.

I can see the picture in my mind — a cow in on a rut, mother hanging on to the back of the sleigh with one hand to help her along — my father in the front dressed in a long haired goat skin coat whose collar came right up over his ears — the vapour flowing back from the breath of the horses — icicles hanging from their noses.

They stopped twice at stopping houses along the way and on the morning of the third day they reached the homestead. The weather by this time had softened up a bit. Putting on a good fire in the only stove they had (Old Homestead) they managed to warm up the shack and to get some food on the table. Then they unloaded articles of furniture etc that they had brought with them and settled down for a long winter.

During the cold weather there, they sometimes sat with their chairs together the backs covered with

blankets and their feet on the open oven door. What little reading they had they read over and over again.

The spring which seemed so lovely on the prairies finally came. Crocuses sprang from the ground — ducks and geese returned — frogs could be heard croaking in the many sloughs of the area. My father sowed his bit of cultivated land. Mother put in their first garden. They made repairs to the shack and on July 9, 1913 their first born John Allan Bryan Handford came into the world with the aid of a mid wife. On August 26th, 1914 Roy Harold (me) was born in the same shack.

W.W.I was in progress so in the spring of 1915 father sold his place to Mr. Downes and moved back to Innisfail where he leased a place called the "Spruces". Here they milked eight or nine cows as pasture was plentiful. It was here that Geoffrey was born Nov. 18, 1915. Mrs. William Daines was the mid-wife.

In 1916 father joined the 187 Expeditionary force which was recruited from this district. He built a house on the "Grange" and moved his family there. Returning from overseas after the war, and having had a St. Johns Ambulance Certificate, he served as an orderly in the Red Deer hospital during the flu epidemic of 1918-19.

Over the years there were three more children born — George Bernard (Dec.8,1919) Edward Quentin (Jan 6, 1923) and Joan Ellen in 1927: The last three being born in the Innisfail hospital., which was later operated as a boarding house by Mrs. Hetherington.

In 1920 or 21 father took up a 1/4 section under the War Veterans Land Act. My brother Geoff owns this today. We all have settled in the Innisfail district.

In looking back, I remember mother telling of when she threw grain to her hens that the prairie chickens would sometimes outnumber the hens. Also she said that in the early days their main food was cured meat, dried fruit pancakes, eggs, bacon and home made bread and biscuits.

Mother was born in the little log house which was on 8 Ave. E, Calgary and is now in Heritage Park. Father passed away Sept. 2, 1958 and mother passed away April 1, 1972. They were true pioneers.

In W.W.II My father and brothers all served and were fortunate in returning.

ERNEST HANSEL by Mrs. Emma Sheils & Evelyn Krause

Ernest Hansel (Hans) arrived in Innisfail from Elizabeth, Minnesota in 1897 or '98. When a lad, he stowed away on a freighter leaving Hamburg, Germany for America. He was born in Friestadt, Germany in 1840. He received his education there. Ernest crossed the Atlantic seven times before finally deciding to land at New York. It was in Elizabeth, Minnesota that he met and married Catherine Holtzbauer. Of this union Anna (Mrs. Otto Krause) was born.

Prior to coming to Canada he worked in mining and smelting regions. As a construction worker on the railroad he helped build the railroad through the Cascades coming into Canada to help build the "line"



Mr. Hansel's log cabin built in 1898

through the Rockies. Later, he journeyed to Poplar Grove. He liked the country and decided to return home and make preparations to migrate. During his absence his wife had died.

In 1897 he fitted a light spring wagon, drawn by a team of mules and started for the Yukon and the Klondike gold fields. After weeks of travelling across wild unmapped territory he arrived at Innisfail. Here he met Mr. G.W. West who persuaded him to settle on a homestead.

He homesteaded in the Horse Shoe Lake District. He chose this site owing to the good supply of spring water. Logs were near by. He felled the trees and erected a log cabin 12 by 18 feet., and a log shelter for the animals. He cleared and tilled land, bought chickens, a cow and a few pigs and thus was well on the way to carve out his future home.

The food of the early pioneers was mostly obtained through Nature's generosity. Ducks, bush partridges, prairie chickens and rabbits were plentiful. Berries grew profusely. This food plus the garden stuffs made up most of the food needed. It was supplemented by dried prunes, raisins, tea, coffee, flour and syrup which was obtained at the G.W. West store. It gave the hard working pioneers ample energy. Often when the early settlers had crop failures, the store owner



Ernest Hansel and grand-daughter Emma in front of first home.

let the people have the necessities to sustain them, until they could pay.

One time Ernest had put in a large patch of potatoes. They were "Early Rose" and he was quite proud of them. Summer came. He hitched his famous mules to the wagon and drove the eleven miles to town for supplies. Upon his return he was horrified to see that every plant had been gouged out and that the neighbors hogs were feasting on his prize potatoes. That winter potatoes were scarce. He bought a sack of them from the "hog owner" for nine dollars.

At the turn of the century a strange marauder entered the peaceful settlement. A huge grizzly made his appearance. Ernest Hansel, Charlie and Fred Tolley, August Kremer and Mr. Penticott armed themselves with shot gun, pitch forks and crowbars. They surrounded the creature. After a desperate battle the courageous men were victorious and another hazard was destroyed.

Blizzard, hail storms, strong winds and drought plagued the settlers. Much suffering was endured, especially during the cold winters, as clothing was often inadequate.

However, Ernest Hansel had an endomitable spirit and stick-to-it which with his ingenuity, resourcefulness, good humor, courage and friendliness endeared him to his neighbors. He was always ready to help and share. "Co-operation and Fairness" were his mottoes.

In the summer of 1930, he quietly closed his eyes for the last time. He was 89 years, 8 months and 15 days of age. He was interred in the Innisfail cemetery.

HEBER HARGREAVES by Russell Hargreaves

Heber Hargreaves was born in Preston, Lancashire, England in 1880 (Dec. 30). His folks were dairy farmers in England. The Canadian Government were advertising for homesteaders in England and Heber and his brother George arrived in Innisfail to homestead in the Milnerton district in 1902. (N.E. 28-34-25-4). His brother George passed away during the typhoid epidemic in 1904.

Heber worked in smelters, coal mines and on the railroad to get some cash the first few winters he was here. He built a shack to live in and got some machinery — a mower and a rack. He was ranching steady by 1908. They hayed nearly all summer, each year.

Heber married Pearl Sarchet Dec. 11, 1913. They had two sons: George who married Greata Chalmers in 1941. They have 4 children and reside on the old home place: Russell married Helen Schaefer in 1939 and they raised 4 children: Earl, Joyce, Joan and Debbie. They live 3 miles from the home place.

The Hargreaves raised and sold cattle, and gradually accumulated a purebred hereford herd of over 100 cows.

Mrs. Hargreaves (Mother) took most of her schooling at Calder. She was 8 years old when she came to Alberta. She raked hay, hauled grain and pigs with a team and sleigh or wagon to Innisfail. She also played the piano and would entertain along with Louie Demers who played the violin on special oc-

cassions. Mr. Demers lived to be 103 years. We all enjoyed and participated at the Milnerton fair. We would take vegetables to exhibit. Mother was a Charter member of the Milnerton W. I. started in 1923 along with Mrs. McKenzie, Mrs. Walton and others.

I remember the time I was "young" and it was a Sunday afternoon. I was in the barn lighting matches — naturally a fire occurred and I tried to put it out by putting hay on it. We lost the whole barn (1924).

Women haven't changed over the years. One time Dad and Mother were at the Milnerton fair and they had a frisky team. Dad was ready to go. He asked Mother if she was — she replied "yes", then she went to say goodbye to her many friends — and that took quite a while. In the meantime the horses and Dad got more anxious and finally the horses reared up and went over the democrat pole and smashed it!



Mr. and Mrs. Hargreaves and George, 1915.

The first car we got was an Overland in 1917. Dad was looking at the cattle and parked the car on the top of the hill and got out to shut the gate. He turned around and the car went into the lake. The top was all that showed. Next day we had to go and get a block and tackle and get into the water and get the car out. I was glad it was Dad and not we boys who did it.

My father passed away some years ago; my mother has remarried.

The children of Helen and Russell Hargreaves are: Earl who married Marlene Goller. They have 1 son and reside in Red Deer: Joyce married Vern Tetz, have one son and reside in Calgary: Joan who married Jim Cunningham have two children and reside on the farm at Trochu: Debbie is at home attending school.

Helen and I enjoy trailoring, square and round dancing and are both members of the O.E.S. and I am active in the Masonic Lodge.

Revere House Fire — Nov. 22, 1911

11 p.m. Ethel Arnell (age 16), John Arnell (age 10), James O. Bennett (age 60) died. Mrs. Arnell threw the children to the sidewalk out the window. Wm. Kirkham caught them. Fire spread to Tom White's Bakery and the Tom Kirkham residence.

HAYES HISTORY by Ethel Scarlett

John Hayes, my great grandfather, was born in Carrick Fergus, Antrim County, Ireland. He was mate of the bark, British Tar, carrying lumber from Quebec to Liverpool, which ship was wrecked off Sea Cow Head. The crew, with great difficulty, reached shore over the ice. John Hayes went to the home of a Mr. Barclay where he was so kindly received and so hospitably entertained that he decided to settle on the island. This was in 1830. A light house has been erected at Sea Cow Head. My great grandfather salvaged a hand off the "British Tar" and it is still in the family on the Island.

John had three sons — William, Robert and Frank. William was my grandfather. He built a carriage factory, the only one on the island for many years. He was Postmaster at Ellerslie for 45 years. William had five sons and three daughters — William, Robert, Charles, Harry and Clifford, Laura, Maud and Bertha.

Lucy Maud Montgomery, author of the "Anne" books, lived with them for several years when she taught school.

Charles was my father. His sister Laura came to Alberta with her husband, the Rev. R.W.J. Clements in 1904 — he was one of the first preachers in Bowden. My dad, after visiting the Clements in 1905, decided to move the family to Bowden. Our first home was a log house four miles north of Bowden. It was owned by the Howards. At that time there were four children — Helen, Kenneth, Isobel and myself (Ethel).

When we started to school we all rode on one horse (Punch). He became pretty smart. When we would be getting close to school he would start to limp and groan so we would get off and he would run home, leaving us to walk home. When Ken was old enough to drive it was much better. We delivered milk and eggs before we went to school. Sometimes the horses would run away, dumping us along with the eggs and milk.

After coming to Alberta, five more children were born, all at home. At such a time Dad would find something for us to do while he went for a neighbor, generally Mrs. Howard; and when we would get back we would find a new brother or sister.

In the year of 1914 Dad bought a farm two miles east of Bowden where he built a large five-bedroom home on a hill. We could see Innisfail from our kitchen window.

The Edmonton Trail ran along the edge of our farm and almost every morning in the summer there would be Indians asking for tea and sugar or tobacco. Sometimes they would send an old man who was deaf and dumb with a note to please give him money or clothes. The Gypsies used to go along that trail too.

Our house was built on the NW corner of the land and there was a wooded quarter next to us. This was our playground and we built tree houses. I had a hammock in the top of one tree. There was a slough where we swam in the summer and skated in the winter. We made a toboggan out of a fifteen foot plank

with runners on the front and back. This we rode down the hill. Often there would be thirty people out to the hill and we would fill the bob sleigh with hay and a dozen or more of us would take off to a dance even if it were 30 below. We used hot stones out of the oven and lots of blankets to keep warm. The boys took turns driving the horses.

When Dad started farming he used a single plow and two horses. He walked behind them all day. Then he would walk behind the harrow. He broadcast the seed by hand then harrowed it again.

The cows were put in a corral at night and milked by hand. They were never tied up. Sometimes they would kick the pail and take off.

The cream was separated from the milk, put in a can and hung in the well to keep it sweet. We would buy our groceries with the money we got from the cream and eggs. Dad used to go out to do a bit of carpenter work between seasons. He got a dollar a day. That helped to buy winter supplies such as molasses, sugar and flour.

Mother was a seamstress before she was married so we were never short of clothes with all the hand me downs we got.

I began to teach in 1919. Things were getting pretty good by that time. We got a new Model T Ford. I got \$900 a year so was able to pay my own way. I got married in 1927. Dad died in 1929. He had just put the cream down the well and had come up to the house to go to bed; he died as he was laying down.

Helen, Ken and Florence have all died since. Bob is living in England. Harry, Charley and Jessie are in Calgary. Isobel and myself in Innisfail. Mother died in 1961. She was the first registered guest in the Innisfail Autumn Glen Lodge. She was always lavish in her praise of the Home. She played an important part in Church and Community affairs through the years. She had 35 grandchildren and 50 great-grandchildren.

JAMES HAYWARD by Mrs. Arthur Simpson

James Hayward was born at Eastwood, Ontario, Sept. of 1856. He arrived in Innisfail in 1912 accompanied by his 2 sons and 4 daughters. He had been a farmer before arriving and continued in this field. Some of the people he knew when first coming were the Dodds, Ross family, Parks, and Simpsons.

The children were: Olive (Mrs. E.C. Nevison), Annie (Mrs. J.H. Menzies), Mildred (Mrs. Ashton Lidde), Myrna (Mrs. Arthur Simpson), Vern and Harold.

THE HEALY STORY by Mrs. Lotty Healy

W.G. (Gordon) Healy, my husband, was born May 13, 1877 at Brooke Township, Lambton County, Ontario. As a small boy, he came with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ebenezer Healy from Regina to Calgary by ox cart. It was in 1887 that there were six outfits that made this long trek, driving 50 head of cattle with them. The trip took all summer. They encountered many trials and hardships on the way. It was told of one man who took sick. Another man said to him "Get on your feed, we only have a very few boards, and we can't use them on you".

Ebenezer Healy went west of Calgary and started the first cheese factory in that area. Gordon assisted with the ranch work and milking of cows. Gordon first attended Spring Bank School later going to Calgary for higher grades. He graduated from Normal School in Regina.

It was in 1900 that Mr. Healy taught at the Aberdeen school, east of Innisfail. He taught at the Hill End school in 1901. He started to farm in the Hill End district in 1904. We were married June 26, 1904. I had come out with my parents, Mr. & Mrs. Leonard Hornett to this district in the fall of 1891.

I remember the time Gordon and another man were going to fence the homestead and some range cattle came along. A cow with a young calf didn't wish to lose any range, so just took after the man. There was no shelter whatsoever, the man ran, but finally found the cow was coming, so he fell flat on his back, kicking his legs. The cow was close, but stopped short as this was something new to see. She was afraid and ran back to her calf.



Mr. and Mrs. Healy

I was a cowboy as a youngster and the hired man for my father. It was thought in those days that the sons must be educated, but the girls only would get married, so it wasn't as important.

Before the cattle trucks appeared, we drove the herds to market on horseback. Sometimes a cattle buyer would have a bunch collected and pay someone to drive them to the stock yards. I was on some of these drives. I remember one time we started out soon after daylight and had orders not to leave any animal in the woods or brush on the way and not to hurry the animals. I said we would need help just at the entrance by the Creamery in Innisfail — and indeed we did. One cow back tracked three different times into the bush. I finally jumped off my horse, took the halter from my saddle, clapped it on the cow and twisted the halter around the horn of the saddle heading the whole head of 81 down the center of main street to the stock yards in Innisfail. I took my horse to the livery barn to be fed and was ready for a meal myself. There were many horses I delivered into Innisfail yards as well.

My husband and I both took a very active part in the life of the community. He was on the school board and later became interested in raising pure



Mrs. Healy at the Fair

bred Hereford bulls. We did well at the Calgary shows. We would attend every fair and competition. If I didn't come first in the horse show section, my sister, Mrs. Pixley did. I am still riding and anticipate riding in the Red Deer fair in 1973 (at the age of 92 years).

I used to do a lot of sewing in the days the children were small — for my family as well as for the Pixley family. We had the first car in the district, it was in 1919 and was a Maxwell and had curtains that would be blowing on the side.

We had five children: Daisy, b. Aug. 11, 1905. She was in the Salvation Army and trained at the Grace Hospital in Regina. In 1934 she married Willard T. Young of the T.C.A. in Vancouver. They had one daughter, Fay Margaret (Mrs. Hugh Green) deceased. Daisy is now residing in Red Deer. Marjorie, b. Dec. 10, 1908; trained at the Calgary General Hospital (1928); nursed at Innisfail for nine years. She married Ken Dezall from Raven in 1939. They have 2 children: Edwin Raymond (b. 1941) and John Charles (b. 1942). Marjorie and Ken reside at Cowley where they ranch. Wilbert: b. 1911, died 1914. Sydney Gordon: b. July 18, 1913. He married Verna Rodway and they have 2 children: Gordon (b. 1942), and Leslie (b. 1944) Sydney is an inspector for the Motor Vehicle Branch in Lethbridge. George Washington: b. Mar. 22, 1918. He married Gladys Dickson in 1949. He was in the R.C.A.F. and was killed at Goose Bay Lab., Feb. 8, 1952. He had one child: Robert Grant b. March 20, 1951.

It was in 1945 that my husband and I retired from the Hill End district after I had lived there for 53 years. We moved to Rosedale B.C. Gordon Healy was killed in a car accident in 1949.

I now reside in Red Deer.

TED HEATHER by Kenneth Moffat

Ted Heather came here from Nanaimo where he had been a coal miner as he had been in Illinois and England (his native land). They didn't like the idea of their sons being miners too.

Jay died a young man leaving a daughter, Annie. Vern lived here for a time and then at Acme during the winter of 1906-1907. He told of the cattle dying on their feet and freezing solid that terrible winter. It was later that he farmed at Coronation, worked in Oregon and Cochrane. It was later he went to Endorby, B.C. in the lumbering industry.

Ted lost an eye in an unusual way. He got clipped with a willow picket. It bothered him for a while, but he neglected to tell the Doctor that he had an old infection in that eye. The doctor decided the eye itself was infected and so removed it. It was too bad, as he didn't need to have this done. He served on the board of the Local Improvement District prior to forming of the Municipal District of Arthur. Mrs. Heather was a semi invalid and rarely left home. They, like nearly everyone else, had many difficulties and hardships.

HEINSEN FAMILY by Freda Heinsen

Grandfather Martin C. Heinsen and father Hein Heinsen came from Kennard, Nebraska where Hein was born in 1881. Martin was born in Denmark in 1850 and came to Nebraska as a young man. He lived there until moving in 1911 to the Dickson area where there was a Danish settlement. They came to Innisfail in 1910, bought land from Alfred Schilling and returned to the U.S. for the winter.

In the spring they returned, bringing Hein's wife, Christine, and four small children and most of their household effects. Martin was now a widower.

In Nebraska Martin had run a hardware store and a farm. In Dickson his main source of income was from a small flock of sheep. Hein milked as many as seventeen cows by hand and sold cream to the Markerville creamery.

Hein and Christine had seven children:

Martin — now retired and living in Innisfail.

Raymond — who married Dorothy McBeath of Spruceview, passed away in 1963 and is buried in Alto Reste, Red Deer.

Erma — married Kenneth Templeton, died in 1953, and is buried in Innisfail.

Fred — married Annie Beckley of Ridgewood; they live in Spruceview on the farm owned originally by his grandfather Martin.

Julia — Mrs. Booth, dec. 1966, buried in Innisfail.

Esther — Mrs. Paul, dec. 1952, buried in Innisfail.

Leonard — married Alice Thorlakson of Markerville and they now live in Eckville and Leonard owns the farm formerly owned by his father Hein.

Their first neighbors were the James Lewis', Anton Laursen and Everett Snowdon families. The main events of the year were the Dickson Picnic and the school Christmas tree. The children all attended school at Dickson, walking the three miles to it.



Martin Heinsen feeding his sheep

Sloughs were everywhere and the roads wound around on the high spots.

The Heinsen's bought machinery in Innisfail. Their first threshing machine with a hand feed was bought from Billy Watt and tractor from Oxley. Hein bought his first car from Dick Kremer in 1925. Grandfather Martin bought his first car from Dick Kremer when he was 77 years old. Grandfather chewed tobacco and when he would spit he'd turn the steering wheel and drive into the ditch.

They built the barn in 1911 - 1912 — shingles for it came from Crown lumber in Innisfail. Martin and Ray were supposed to be looking after baby Fred in the buggy but were more interested in watching the building of the barn; when the baby fell out they got bawled out.

They sold their hogs to MacMillan in Innisfail and did their banking at the Bank of Commerce. They came into town by team and wagon and would go to Wong's for a meal. When their house was built they hauled the bricks for it from the Innisfail brick yard — the only time they really got stuck in their own driveway. The main trail going to the west country ended in their yard and then spread out in many trails to get around the slough there.

Martin Heinsen passed away in 1932; Mr. & Mrs. Hein Heinsen retired to Innisfail in 1944 where they lived until their passing; Hein in 1969 and Christine in 1970. All three are buried in the Dickson Cemetery.

HENRY HEMKEN by Henry Hemken Jr.

Henry Hemken was born in Germany on June 17, 1885. He moved to Laverne, Minnesota, U.S.A. in 1895 with his parents Henry and Anna Hemken, three brothers — Fred, Emile, Alvin and sister Emma. The family moved to Innisfail in 1901.

On December 3, 1909 he married Margaret Jones, who came from Toma, Wisconsin and was visiting her Aunt and Uncle — Ren and Mollie Jones, — (He was a horse trader in Innisfail). Henry and Margaret were married at home by a travelling Lutheran minister, who would spend the night at their home when passing through. Four children were born in Innisfail — Heinie, Charles, Lorna and Donna.

Charles passed away at the age of four years. Henry had homesteaded east of town in the Aberdeen district. He raised his own beef and a large garden. Some of his neighbors were Frank Laing, Mac Broom and Biggs'.

Henry Hemken moved back to Michigan U.S.A. in 1921 where he farmed and was a pipe fitter. He passed away May 8, 1958.

THE SYDNEY B.A. HEPBURN STORY by Doreen Howard

Syd, or S.B.A. as he was known to all his neighbors, was born in 1881, and raised in Kent England, home of the hop fields. As a young man he worked in an office in London, but upon reading the ads in the local papers advertising western Canada as the place to make a fortune, the urge became very great. In April of 1904, life on the prairies became his way of

life. Percy, his brother, had been teaching in Calgary, and for two years had also been thinking of homesteading. The two brothers covered a wagon loaded with their worldly possessions and headed north from Calgary.

Dean Paget of the Anglican Church in Calgary advised them to settle north of Three Hills as there they could find more water, trees, and better grassland for cattle.

So it was June when Syd arrived in Innisfail. They bought supplies and headed east across the prairies for the SE quarter, 16-34-24, which is now within the Huxley district. The first night, camp was made on the edge of the big bush. Towards evening two men joined them; they were Hector McRae and John McNeice who later became close neighbors. Thinking they were getting close to the location of the homestead, Syd asked a man in a shack for directions, but the man didn't even know the numbers of his own land. After another night in the tent, they found another neighbor, Mrs. Frank Hogg, who had a map with their quarter marked; then it was easy to find the location.

Lumber for the first house was hauled from Innisfail, always a two-day trip. Their first mail came to Innisfail, then neighbors brought it out to Milnerton post office, Arthurvale post office, and later Lake View post office. Supplies were hauled from Innisfail from 1904 to 1912 when the east railway line was built.

Syd's first milk cow gave birth to twin calves, the only set of twins he ever raised. He had the job of stacking straw from a horse-powered threshing machine, but he soon learned there were better places to work on the rig. Mr. Barkemeyer bought the first pigs he raised. The first crop of hay was put up with a mule and a bull, and a pair of cayuses on a buck pole. The years of 1909 and 1910 were very wet, making it well into fall before the stacking was done. However, hay was no problem — if a homesteader didn't have enough on his own land, he moved to unclaimed land, cut a swath around it and the hay was his to mow and stack.

Sod was turned that first summer of 1904 with the walking plow. It had to be plowed in June or the sod wouldn't rot — or so Syd had been told. The big prairie fire of 1906 that started near Calgary, came right to Syd's shack door. He fought fire all one night. During the coldest winter of 1906-07 the corral rails were used as firewood in an effort to keep warm.

In 1911 a new house was built for his bride who was coming from England. When she arrived in April of that year, they were married in St. Mark's Anglican Church in Innisfail, and had a buggy trip to the homestead as a honeymoon.

When the rail came to Huxley in 1912, the trip to town became four miles instead of forty which made life much easier.

Four children were added to the family over the years: Ronald, who married Eunice Brown, and farms a few miles from the homestead; Doreen, who married Henry Howard, and farms on Milnerton

Flats; Eira, a registered nurse, who married Dave Silver, and farms on land adjoining the homestead; and Dallas, the youngest, who married Velma Roach, and has a gas business on the homestead which is their home.

Their mother passed away in 1928 and Syd raised the family. He returned to England twice, the first time fifty years to the month after leaving for Canada. Syd, who had been very active in community affairs — School Board, Co-op, and the neighborly card games of 500 — passed away in 1971. Both parents are laid to rest at the Arthurvale cemetery close to St. Hilda's Anglican Church which he helped to build.

HETHERINGTON FAMILY by Mrs. Harold E. Munro

R.J. Hetherington was born in Smith Falls, Ontario on August 8, 1872. He was a shoemaker by trade but decided to change, so had a confectionery store in Souris, Manitoba until his father died. He then went to help his mother on the farm. He joined the 226 Manitoba Battalion and served overseas for three years. He married Mary Watt from Tiveotdale, Ontario where she was born Jan. 27, 1876. They were married in Souris, Manitoba on November 20, 1895.

He came to Innisfail because his wife's parents, Mr. & Mrs. Jas. Watt gave such glowing reports of sunny Alberta and the great opportunities for raising a family. Mary Hetherington came later in July 14, 1924 with their family of nine children. When he came to Innisfail, he was employed with W.C.A. Watt in the oil and implement business. When Mr. Watt sold out, Mr. Hetherington went to work for I. Tedeschini. When the airport closed, he joined the maintenance staff there until his passing suddenly in 1947.

R. J. Hetherington was one of the first members of The Loyal Order of Oddfellows in Souris and active in Innisfail in this Order. He had been a member of the Canadian Legion from the time he had served in the Army. Mrs. Mary Hetherington was a charter member of Crescent Rebekah Lodge No. 24 Souris, Manitoba in 1910. She went through all the chairs in Souris and again after coming to Innisfail. At the time of her passing, she had been a member for 60 years. She was also active in the Ladies' Aid of the United Church and in the Legion Auxiliary.

It was hard times raising a family. Mrs. Mary Hetherington took in boarders and roomers for years, first in the old Simpson house across from the Moose Hall before the hotel was built and later in the old hospital near the creamery. She was the last one to live in that house before Mr. Cossey built his apartments on the site.

R.J. Hetherington died suddenly March 21, 1947; laid to rest in Innisfail Cemetery. Mary Hetherington passed away in Dr. Parson's Auxiliary Hospital in Red Deer Oct. 20, 1970; buried in Innisfail.

Their nine children were:

Melville Arthur Hetherington born Oct. 14, 1899 in Souris, Manitoba; died Oct. 11, 1972, buried Alto Rest, Red Deer. Married Emily Grant July 22, 1925. One daughter, Audrey. Melville joined the Air Force



Hetherington Family

in 1919. Before and after for some time he worked as a clerk in a men's shoes and clothing store, then joined the C.P.R. and after 42 years was retired in 1965 as Conductor in Minnedosa, Manitoba. Melville came to Innisfail in 1966 to be near his mother.

Marguerite Ruth Hetherington born July, 12, 1902, attended school in Souris, Man. and Brandon Normal School, then taught school in Souris before coming with the family to Innisfail. At that time I would have had to go to summer school to teach in Alberta, and as there was a large family and money needed, I decided to work. I first worked in Woodland Dairy as bookkeeper; then with W.J.O'Neil, lawyer, and Rutherford Insurance then as bookkeeper in The Globe Store for Mr. Smith and Mr. Oliver until I married Harold E. Munro on July 20, 1927. (see Munro story).

Clifford James Hetherington, born Sept. 16, 1904 in Souris, Manitoba. He started to work in the Woodland Creamery soon after coming to Innisfail. Mr. Werner was manager at that time. Cliff has been in the creamery business since, at present is manager of the cheese factory at Bruderheim, Alberta. He married Myrtle Davick on Sept. 10, 1930; two children, Milton James and Maxine Edna (Plank).

Myrtle Marion Hetherington, born March 18, 1907 in Souris; died April 10, 1958, buried in Innisfail. She attended Mt. Royal College, later worked as bookkeeper in the Co-op and Martin's Cartage. She married Sydney Jenson Jan. 19, 1929; one son Robert Allan.

Hawley Robert Hetherington born Sept. 3, 1909. After finishing school in Innisfail he worked in Badcock's Drug store. He went to Ocean Falls, B.C. where he worked in the paper mill and married Babe Taylor July 10, 1941; two children Myrna and Ricky. For many years now has been working in Longview, Wash. still connected with the paper business. He later married Ann Soda June 25, 1948.

Hazel Charlotte Hetherington, born Aug. 3, 1911, came to Innisfail with the family where she finished school, then worked in Percy's Bakery and the Globe Store. She married Bert Lockhart Mar. 3, 1937.

Retired, living in Bowden; 2 sons, 3 daughters. (see Lockhart story)

Agnes May Hetherington born July 12, 1913, finished school in Innisfail, then worked in Llewellyn Bakery. She married Emerson Berry Dec. 15, 1933. Three sons, three daughters.

Lloyd George Hetherington born Nov. 11, 1919. He joined The Calgary Highlanders in 1939, served overseas for more than 5 years. He was first Instructor in Advance Corps, then took three months technical course in Electrical engineering applied to War in Birmingham. After the War he came home to Innisfail for about a year, then joined the late Gordon Hurry in the furniture business. He then decided to go back in the Army in England, took more advanced courses and was transferred back to Canada first to Vancouver, then Kingston where he retired. He now has an electrical business in Kingston. He married Daphne Violet Brown in Fleet Road Cove, England Oct. 9, 1941. Three children.

Arthur Meighen Hetherington born Dec. 4, 1921, came to Innisfail with the family went to school and then joined the Calgary Highlanders with Lloyd. He served overseas as a signalman for 5 years. He has been employed with a catering Co. five years at Mica Creek Dam and Elkford, recently transferred to Edmonton. He married Ruth Cambridge May 10, 1957. One daughter, Laurel Ann.

WILLIAM HEWITT by Mrs. Ernie Hewitt

William Hewitt came from Bracebridge, Ontario to Innisfail and on to the Knee Hill Valley district in 1892. It was because of the offer of cheap land that he came. He had married Abigail Willis in Ontario and she accompanied him with their four sons and two daughters.

In Ontario, he worked with a team of oxen in the woods, later drove a mail stage and lastly operated a hotel. When he came here he became a farmer. The wet years were on — trails were almost impassable. It was due to impassable trails etc. that Mrs. Harry Hunt passed away because of not being able to get a doctor out. Due to the condition of the trails it was decided to bury her in the Valley — but there was no cemetery. At this time Mr. Hiram Hunt gave a portion of his land for the first cemetery. A few headstones still remain in the old cemetery which is opposite the present church.

Mr. Hewitt had to come into Innisfail for supplies and was soon able to build a log house for shelter. When first arriving and with no building there, they did their cooking in the yard and, awoke one morning to find a snowstorm in progress and the cookstove buried in snow.

Mr. & Mrs. William Hewitts' family were: Fred — who married Lillian Forbes, Nelson who married Melinda Millett, Walter married Clara Schwerdfeger, John who married Dorothy Potter and Ernie married Alice Bilton. There were the two girls: Bertha (Mrs. Dan Cameron) and Ethel (Mrs. John Haddon).

Their first neighbors were the Biltons, Maclarens, Hunts, Tams, Augustus Roper, the Allisons, Smiths and Will Gunstons. Recreation consisted of house

dances, concerts in the school, the annual race and sports day in Innisfail, reading serials in the papers and picnics for the community. One of the social events of the early days was a picnic held in the grove where Borden Stringer now lives — Guest speaker was R.B. Bennett.

Taxes in the early days were small. In 1915 they were 6 1/4c per acre. (\$9.55 per quarter) On October of 1892 common lumber was furnished to Innisfail at \$18.00 per thousand — flooring, ceiling and siding \$24.00 per thousand.

The settlers would bring what money they had with them to this new land and in time were able to sell milk and cream. They sold oats to the railway for horsefeed when the Crowsnest Pass Railway was being built. It was before 1900 that a frame Pleasant Valley School was built. The first students to attend were Fred and Ernest Hewitt, Winnie, Claire & Jessie Hunt, Will & Kate Bilton, Maggie & Lou Allison, Whitfield & Maggie Gunston, Sadie Wynn, Maudie Tams, Mary Little, Cecilia Marsh, Willie Little, Stub Gillett and the Jardine children. Miss York was one of the early teachers. It was in 1906 the new brick "Pleasant Valley" school was built.

Early families in the area were the Wiltons, McVeys, Moffats, C. Gunstons, Scotts, Biltons, Maclarens, Hunts, Cassels, Mortons, Wynns, Andy Beggs, Lockwoods, Pollocks, Kirkups, W. Robinsons, Marshes, Smiths, George Thornes, Schwerdfegers, Whealons, Holts, Barclays, Guy Dansey, Stanways, Velges, Jensens, Ennis family, Laydens, Arrowsmiths, Hibberts, Fergusons, MacCormicks, Asa Lee family, Mainwarings, Oylers, Holdens, Hamilton Bros., Arthur Young, Archie Hoar, — They were nearly all farmers. Asa Lee was an old time fiddler.

Mr. William Hewitt, when travelling, carried a long rope in the wagon which was drawn by an unmatched team. One horse was big and one was small. The small one didn't sink into the boggy ground. The rope was occasionally used for the little horse to help the big one from the deep mud. Hamilton Bros., Hovey, and Cassel, travelled by oxen and could complete the journey to Innisfail quicker than with horses.

Both William Hewitt and his wife Abigail are interred in the Innisfail Cemetery.

BERNARD HIBBERT SR. by Mrs. Albert Hibbert

Bernard Hibbert Sr. came to the Calder district in 1902 from North Dakota near the Canadian border. He had been born at Derbyshire, England July 23, 1857. He came because he had a family of eight and the new open land looked good to him. Transportation was by the C.P.R. and his son Albert and son-in-law Edward Ferguson brought carloads of machinery, cattle and horses as well as some furniture under settlers' effects. This trip took at least one week and they ran out of 'grub'. In March 1903, Mr. Hibbert, his wife Martha, four sons, and three daughters and a granddaughter arrived by train to Innisfail and then drove to their new home in a wagon drawn by horses.

Mr. Hibbert had been a farmer and postmaster in North Dakota, but here he farmed. He raised horses, cattle, sheep and swine and did a lot of veterinary work in the new country. By using wild meat, planting gardens, and sewing, they were able to feed and clothe their family. At one time Mrs. Hibbert won a prize in butter-making using churn and butter molds.

Mrs. Hibbert was the former Martha Henderson, born Jan. 1, 1883 in North Dakota. Born to the Hibberts were:

Harriet — married Edward Ferguson in 1901 in N.D.

Albert — married Matilda Layden in 1915

Mary Jane — married James Wilson who drayed in Innisfail

Sarah Ann married C.M. Davis in 1915 and lived at Delia

Walter — married Josie Coleman in 1917 at Grande Prairie

Abram L. — married Carolyn Colon in 1920 at Sexsmith

Ernest — married Lulu Lisbome in 1920 at Sexsmith

Bernard John — married Mary Ellen Kirkham in 1924.



Albert Hibbert and coyote pelts 1913 beside the Methodist Church that later burned down.

Early neighbors were Geo. Weir, Bill Forester, B.L. Hooper, John, Walter, and Bill Whealon, and John Mitchell.

Abram went to first W.W. We used to enjoy baseball, horseshoes, square and round dancing, horseback riding. I recall Mabel and Ross Peters and Harry Weir played for dancing, and a small collection was taken in a hat. Oats were 25c per bu. when sown on those first few acres. We would broadcast and harrow in the seed.

The Calder school was not used in the winter months. They would mostly all walk to school or go on horseback. The first two teachers were men.

Bernard Hibbert belonged to the Modern Woodsmen Lodge. Albert was a councillor in the Municipality and all farmed successfully.

I remember that Albert and Walter Hibbert hunted coyotes with grey-hounds and horses for profit and pastime.

Albert and Matilda Hibbert celebrated 57 years of marriage December 1, 1972.

Walter and Josie Hibbert celebrated 55 years of marriage, November 7, 1972.

Mrs. Bernard Hibbert died in January, 1912; Bernard Hibbert died in February, 1941; both are buried in the Innisfail Cemetery. We are all glad they came to Alberta.

GEORGE W. HILEMAN by Ethel (Hileman) Lewis

Our parents, Mr. & Mrs. George Walter Hileman were married in Dakota City, Nebraska in 1909. Mother was born June 27, 1890 at Elk Point, South Dakota; and Dad January 17, 1877 at Dakota City, Nebraska. Mother was of French parentage and Dad was Dutch. In 1910, Dad and Mother came to Innisfail. The trip was by train and after a tiring journey they were happy to arrive at the CPR Station and were shown to lodgings at the 'Constantine' house.

Dad had a barbershop in Dakota City and also worked as a shoemaker. He brought his tools with him — the many forms for the different shoe sizes, the awl, tiny nails and hammers. Shoes were mended for the family and neighbors. Before Dad took up these trades he had followed the harvest in the USA, mostly Iowa corn.

They first lived in rooms above the Alfred Aspinall business office — the site is now the Gus Pidgeon Store. Raymond was born there in August, 1910. The doctor was out of town and Dad went for Mrs. Varty who was a midwife at this time. The brick house where Mrs. Varty lived is still the home of her daughter Mrs. Reta Cole.

Dad worked at digging wells, using a spring pole; and made the casings. In the late summer he went harvesting in Nanton to earn some cash. With Dad away, Mother and Raymond moved into the Varty home where mother took over the housework. I (Ethel) was born at the home of Laura and Jack Miller. Their house is the second one west of the Curling Rink. We then moved to a house north of the present High School. When I was two years old, Mother visited her home and Mildred was born in Nebraska that fall.

In 1914 the family moved to a homestead in Caroline, 1-1/2 miles south of the old store. Dad dug our well and helped with others in the area. He sometimes talked of 'witching' for a well. Dad grew grain and worked out to make a living. A Scottish couple, Mr. & Mrs. George Scott, lived south of us. Sometimes we got a ride to the store in their wagon. We had blankets covering the boxes on which we sat. We dressed in home-made clothes, white or print dresses and Raymond wore a belted tunic top and pants with elastic at the knees. Our shoes were buttoned or laced and I wore a large ribbon bow in my hair for years. After six years at Caroline, we moved to Innisfail but went back many times to visit the Scotts when we would go berry picking and fishing in a creek that ran just below the Scott home.

Bugbee, Browning, Langley, Nels Swanson, Chris Jensen, and Nelson were our friendly and kind neigh-

bors at Caroline; all worked hard and had just the necessities to get by with. While we lived there, Dad showed mother how to handle a rifle and she became a good shot. Once when Dad was away she shot at a bear that was coming towards the house which turned it away.

Our family grew to include Elmer, Freeman, George, Isabelle, Lorne and Betty.

I well remember the 'Opera House', now the Moose Hall. It was managed by Mr. Bryan and the projectionist was Jack Miller. My brothers did odd jobs to get a pass for some shows. Sometimes when money was not available, they pretended they were lame and got a free pass. Mr. Bryan saw through this ruse but never let on. The boys were willing to clean the hall next day (minus the leg bandage). The Westerns of Tom Mix and the lovely songs of Gracie Fields I still remember.

As a family we often picked saskatoons, raspberries and chokecherries just west of town. Hazel nuts were found near Mud Lake. We loved to attend parades and band concerts. Fairs were held in the Agricultural Grounds with a showing of vegetables, baking and penmanship. A circus complete with a merry-go-round and Ferris Wheel with night lights occasionally stopped in Innisfail. We traded at the G.W. West Store and later at Delong's Grocery Store. West's had the 'cracker barrel' and to this day I love gingersnaps.



Raymond, Ethel and Mildred Hileman at Caroline.

I attended the Innisfail schools from Grade 2 to 12. My first teacher was Miss MacLeod; Miss Chisholm was special to me. In High School, Mr. Willis was principal and taught physics; Mrs. Aylesworth taught French; and Norman Lougheed taught literature and chemistry. In the early years I belonged to the Presbyterian Ladies Group and also taught Sunday School.

Fred Rogers was a good friend of my parents. We all remember the lovely rose garden he had. Margaret Wilson was a great friend of my mother.

Other early families I remember were: Tom and Hattie Varty, Ed Dodd, Jenny Stiles, Tom Kirkham,

Frank & Reta Cole, Jack & Bert Varty, Bill and Sarah Forester, Max Succee, Frank Anderson, Maurice Dickie, Ann and Jane Day, Mr. Bryan, Richard Adams and Alfred Aspinal, Dick Kremer and Dr. Lauder.

Dad passed away at the age of 80 years on April 8, 1957 and mother at age 75 years on January 8, 1965.

Children: Raymond — joined the Alberta Light Horse and took training in Innisfail and Sarcee. He died Sept. 27, 1952, aged 42 years. Ethel — married Hugh Lewis; live in Innisfail. Elmer — joined the 49th Edmonton Regiment in Feb. 1940. He was killed in action at the battle of Ortona Oct. 6, 1943, aged 29. Freeman — married Betty Snowden. They live in Airdrie. He joined the Calgary Highlanders in 1939, returning home in 1944 after a serious accident. George — married Muriel Lalor. George died July 9, 1970 at age 49. He helped Dad painting, working with Archie McKechnie. In 1942 he joined the Field Artillery and was discharged in 1946 after peace-keeping in Holland. After D-Day, George, Bill Connon and Ed MacLeod were the only ones left of their group. Isabelle — married Oliver King (deceased). Isabelle lives in San Diego, California. Lorne — lives in Calgary. He joined up at age 17 in 1942 and was also in Holland until 1946. Betty — married Stewart Weicker. They now live in Grande Prairie.

EDWARD ROLAND HILL by Evelyn Gulliver Hayward (Calgary)

My Grandfather, Edward Roland Hill, came from Calgary in 1895 and settled on a homestead east of Hill End district. He made the trip by buckboard and travelled this same way to Edmonton to get a land title as this was before the railroad. His farm land was later owned by Chas. McGillivray and Blakes.

His neighbors were: Brogans, Oliver Langevin, Tim Kelly, Tom Wells, Niblocks, Songhursts, Healeys, Pixleys, Evans, Bechervais', Blakes; and later his brother, Ernest Hill; I can remember most of them.

Grandpa was very prominent in the Baptist church. In Calgary, he had operated a milk ranch on Nose Creek Hill east of the present Calgary — Edmonton CPR railroad line and had the second milk route in Calgary. He had also operated a store at Gleichen for a while.

He was a partner in the Red Deer Brickyard and a Grader in the Red Deer Creamery.

Edward Roland Hill was born in England in 1856. He married Eveline Browning of Brantford, Ontario and they had two children, Mabel, and Ernest George (who married Nellie Thurston), now all deceased. Later he married Elizabeth Greenfield (from Owen Sound, Ont.) in Calgary. They had four children: Harriet Hill m. Lee Cunningham, Lethbridge; Rose Hill m. G.H. Leppard, Edmonton; Roland Hill, dec.; Edith Hill m. L. Heath, U.S.A. E.R. Hill died in Red Deer July 18, 1926 and his wife Elizabeth in Jan. 1931; both buried in Red Deer.

Earnest George Hill and Nellie (Thurston) Hill (dec. 1926) had four children: Lewis, Isabelle, Elmer and Stan.

My mother, Mabel Hill, married a homesteader of the area, Harry Gulliver; children Roy, Alex, and Evelyn (Eva) attended the Grassy Lake School of which Harry Gulliver was a member of the first school board. Those early years the school board often had to borrow money from the Innisfail bank to pay the teacher. School was held from mid-April until mid-October. I remember my teacher, Miss Jeanette McLennan, who started teaching there in 1907. Her sister Isabelle taught at Willowdale, 15 miles away, and we once wrote "pen-pal" letters to her pupils. I can remember Doc. and Mrs. Lauder and Frank Cole.

ERNEST GEORGE HILL by Minnie McPhee

Dad was born on July 20, 1867 in Brantford, Ontario and raised on a farm there and near Emerson, Manitoba. He moved to Seattle and worked in cafes as an assistant cook. He suffered badly with asthma at the coast, so decided to move to Innisfail to his uncle, E.R. Hill, in 1898. His wife Lillie and children May, Grace, Fred, and George travelled with him by train to Innisfail and wagon out to the Hill End District. For a couple of years, Dad cooked in lumber camps such as Bawtinheimer's in the Red Deer district, and for ranches such as the Wyndham Ranch near Huxley. In a year or two, besides building up his own farm on SE 18-36-26-4, he rented the Lee place (later owned by the Goldstrom family). He also owned the Hornett place on the west flats which he later sold to Wm. Firley. Hay was put up on permits from school sections for his bunch of cattle and horses.

My mother worked as a practical nurse with Dr. Lauder. Mr. Frank West was one of her babies; also a Barwis boy. The going wage at this time (1898-1900) was about 50c a day, so there wasn't much cash around. Groceries, etc. were bought by trade. We took our eggs and butter to stores and got flour and other staple groceries in exchange. Children and adults seemed to be happier and more satisfied than they are today when we have so much. My dad had to be away from home in order to earn a bit of money, so mother had to look after and help milk seven or eight cows that they had on shares. There were no fences and the seasons were really wet, so it was a terrible job to find and gather the cows for milking, on foot, then to sit outside (no barn) and milk them with the rain pouring down. I remember, too, that on wash days I arrived home from school about 5 o'clock and mother would be just finished her washing having been at it all day — carrying the water from the well, heating it on a wood stove, using a wash board, and boiling the clothes.

The first school I attended for one winter was the old log Hill End school which was built in 1893. This school was 1-1/2 miles away, so was quite a walk for a little girl; however, Donald Blake, a big boy, drove a team of dogs and always gave me a ride. In 1912, the new school was built and that was just a mile away. Mr. H. Dinsmore was my first teacher.



E. G. Hill Family 1911: Mr. Hill, Grace, Geo. W., Fred, Lillie; Minnie and Walter seated in front.

One day my mother and Mrs. Leonard Hornett had been to Red Deer with a single horse and buckboard. It was during the wet seasons, and they had to ford creeks and drive through lots of water. Finally darkness overtook them, so they headed for a haystack. They unhitched the horse so he could feed and they crawled into the stack for shelter for the night. Evidently, the sounds of the wilds did not disturb Mrs. Hornett as she slept soundly. Mother didn't close an eye; at daybreak they hitched up the horse and continued on their journey home. They drove through Mr. Eastman's yard just at milking time. The Eastman's laughed and the ladies discovered they had forgotten to brush the hay from their hair and coats, so the Eastman's very well knew where they had spent the night.

Neighbors were: Wells, Gordon Healy, Wm. Pixley, Thos. Eastman, Robert Niblock, Songhursts, Arthur Evans, and Albert Hadley.

Ernest George Hill died Nov. 20, 1935; Lillie E. Hill died Oct. 22, 1948.

Their children were:

Annie May died Jan. 9, 1903 Innisfail.

Edith Grace m. Edwin G. Pargeter; 2 children. She died Jan. 17, 1952, Calgary. Frederick Henry m. Eva McIntosh; 10 children. He died June 8, 1957, Stettler, George Washington died Apr. 22, 1917 89th Batt. Vimy Ridge, France. Ernest Walter m. Dorothy Lentz died Oct. 1952, Red Deer. Minnie Martha m. Jim McPhee; 2 boys, Ernest & Ronald; living in Red Deer.

THE JOHN HILL STORY by Jane Walker

My father, John Hill was the first relative to come here. He was born Jan 1, 1875 at Carluke, Lanark, Scotland. In 1904 he emigrated to Southern Alberta with his wife Mary and children Susan, John, Jane, Agnes and I remember we lived in a tent until a house was built. I also recall that I was terribly frightened when Indians came near — My mother used to calm me and say they were not to be afraid of. A brother William was born a short time after our arrival in Canada. On our trip across Canada I remember so well that my eldest brother had forgot-

ten to get off the train when we were disembarking and there was quite a lot of confusion until we finally located him and got him off too.

We later moved north to Burnt Lake and a few other points before finally arriving in Innisfail in late January of 1917, to farm four miles south east of Innisfail. The quarter section my dad was able to buy was heavily treed land and he was able to get it for a few hundred dollars. The whole family was moved from a farm in the Penhold district by sleigh on that cold winter day. It seemed like an all day journey and we did stop for dinner on the way. When we arrived at Innisfail there was my Step-Mother (former Mrs. Janet Watters) and Susan (Hargreaves), Jane (Myself), William, Lyman and the grandchildren John & Mae. I remember Mr. Joe DeLong and Mr. G.W. West let us all into Mr. Wests' store to warm up and get a few groceries.

In Scotland my father had laboured in the coal mines and when he arrived in Canada, he was in the mines in Southern Alberta. He homesteaded in Southern Alberta before coming to the Innisfail district. On his farm here he was a mixed farmer until his retirement.



John Hill

On Dec. 31, 1894 John Hill married Mary Nain-smith Cunningham in Scotland. Mary was born Dec. 9, 1875 and died on the homestead at Retlaw on Feb. 2, 1912. The children of John and Mary Hill are: Susan Hargreaves, Taber, John Hill Jr., Jane T. Walker Innisfail, Agnes C. Hill deceased 1916, William C. Hill Innisfail married Annie P. Newton. Lyman N. Hill deceased in 1965 married to Elsie L. Green, Innisfail.

The first neighbors were the Rutledges, the Wm. Champs, Sam Ennis, Bert Fry, the MacMillian Bros. (Tom, Hugh & George) and the Tom Simpsons. For recreation we used to get together with neighbors on Saturday evenings for singing, dancing and games. John Hill was well known for his ability to play the violin, accordion, flute and drum.

John Hill was a member of the Masons.

John Hill passed away on August 5, 1949 at Innisfail at the age of 74 and was laid to rest in the Innisfail Cemetery.

MR. ARCHIE HOAR by G. Hoar

Mr. Hoar came to Canada from Maidstone, Kent, England in March 1907. Mr. Arthur Young was

already here and had obtained a job for Mr. Hoar at Mrs. J. J. Buckham's (Harry Scott's half sister) in the Grahamston district. The wages were sometimes \$25. a month. He worked for 6 months for his board. He worked for Mrs. Medley of the Horse Shoe Lake district next. He then moved to Matsque Prairie, B.C. to work for one summer cutting brush on a dairy farm. He returned to Medley's that winter and bought his own farm in 1910.

Mrs. Hoar (Miss Joan Newman) came from Lydford, Devon in 1913. She came to work for Mrs. Medley for 2 years and married Archie on June 1, 1916. Mr. Hoar joined the army soon after the wedding and went overseas.

Mrs. Hoar returned to England where their first son, Richard, was born Christmas day, 1918. After the war they returned to their farm which had been in the care of Sanderson Butt during their absence, and he purchased a second quarter section known as the Johnson place. Two more children were born: Geoffrey and Anastasia (Nan — Mrs. Lorne Barclay).

The land was farmed with horses for many years and it was often a great hardship to make the payments to the Soldiers Settlement Board.

Mr. Hoar died Jan, 1971 and Mrs. Hoar died September, 1971. They are both buried in the Innisfail Cemetery.

CHARLES DUNCAN HOAR FAMILY by Margaret Finnson

Charles' first relative to come to Canada was his older brother, Archie Edward Hoar. He came to the Innisfail district in 1907.

Charles came from Bearsted, Maidstone, Kent, England. He was born in Rocky Hill Maidstone on May 30, 1890. His father C.E. Hoar was a physician and his mother was Mary Jane Hoar.

Charles arrived in the Innisfail district in 1910 to farm. Before coming to Canada, Charles had attended an agricultural school in England. He first lived here with his brother Archie on his farm in an old shack with a leaky roof. Charles worked for Medleys, Buckhams, Stephens, Doughty and his brother Archie.

In 1912, the weather was very wet and when Charles and Archie lived in the shack, Charles was the cook. The story goes they bought a packet of navy beans and after soaking and cooking, every pot in the house was full of beans.

In 1915, Charles left Canada to return to England and enlist in the British Army in World War I. He enlisted on March 20, 1915. He spent time in France and England. On August 8, 1917 he was commissioned as Second Lieutenant in the Machine Gun Corps Later he went to Mesopotamia. He landed in Liverpool, England on April 30, 1919. During the war, Charles was injured twice and spent some time in hospitals. We remember him talking about flies, rats and mud in the trenches.

After Charles' discharge from the army he spent some time in England returning to the Innisfail district in March, 1920. He bought his quarter sec-



Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hoar, Margaret and Charlie

tion in the early '20's. The location of his land was N.W. of 4, Township 35, Range 27, W 4th. At this time, the quarter was nearly covered with bush. There was a very small amount of land broken. It had a log house which had been built by Bert Sherratt and a well. He lived in this until the late '30's. Charles cleared most of the land by hand, ploughed land with a team and picked rocks by hand. He spent the winter of 1928-29 with Hamond Gates. He hauled the feed as he had a good team.

Recreation in those days included a lot of visiting, and playing cards. He also played a lot of cricket at Arthur Youngs'. Hope Galbraith, Charles' future brother-in-law spent about three years on the farm with Charles (1930-33).

Some of Charles' first neighbors were Hamond Gates, W.H. Robinson, Harold Knipe and Jim Simpson. He bought bread from Simpsons. By 1932, he had cattle, cows calving and horses. Oats that year sold at 25c a bu.

On June 8, 1934, Charles married Kate Isabella Galbraith. They were married at the Cathedral Church of the Redeemer in Calgary. The rector of St. Marks' Church of Innisfail married them.

Kate came from London, England. She was born at Mile End Road, London on January 3, 1895 to Thomas Galbraith, M.D. Her mother was Isabella Galbraith. Kate was a registered nurse in England and had spent many years as matron of a childrens' hospital. Kate knew Charles Hoar before he came to Canada and when he was in England in 1919. They corresponded during the years and she came to Calgary to be married.

Charles announced his coming marriage to Archie in late May, but it was a big surprise to his neighbors. Kate found Canada and the farm very different than England. She worked hard, was not too strong and as Mrs. West said she never complained.

Charles and Kate had two children: Margaret Elizabeth (born April 28, 1935) and Charles Edward (born August 19, 1936). Both were born in the Innisfail hospital with Dr. Wagner attending. We both went to grade school at Grahamston and travelled three and one-half miles to school by horse back, bike, skis or walked when there was too much snow and cold for the horses.

Margaret finished her high school in Red Deer and went in nurses training at the Calgary General Hospital. She married Bill Finnsen. We reside in

Calgary and have five children: Daryl, Michael, Charlene, Gregory and Bradley.

Charlie ran the farm after his father's death and also worked on some oil rigs. In 1958, Charlie married Jean McLenaghan. They have two children: Kevin and Shauna. Charlie owned a welding business in Calgary for some years and now owns and runs Rockalta Stables (10 miles west of Calgary). He trains and shows many horses.

Charles and Kate built a large two storey house in the late '30's. It was built by Joe Black. Charles and Kate belonged to the Anglican Church of Innisfail and Kate belonged to the Grahamston Womens' Institute for a few years. Charlie and I remember many good times with our parents as we grew up on the farm.

Charles passed away in his home, after a weeks' illness on April 17, 1955. He was sixty-four years of age. Kate spent some time visiting relatives in England in 1956-57, then sold the farm and bought a house in Calgary where her children were. Kate passed away in Glenmore Auxillary Hospital, May 11, 1964 after a lengthy illness at the age of 69 years.

Both are buried in the Innisfail Cemetery.

THE HOBBS STORY by Mrs. Sarah Hobbs.

Fred Hobbs, my father-in-law was born in England in 1858. He worked in the coal mines as a young man near Nottingham. It was here that he met and married Nan Davis. They had six children. Because the damp climate didn't agree with some of the children, and he had made trips to Canada where he thought the climate would be healthier, it was decided to emigrate to Canada.

He arrived in Calgary in 1910 accompanied by his wife and family. The dry climate was marvellous and all seemed in much better health because of it. Mr. Hobbs worked for the City of Calgary for the rest of the year, then came north to Innisfail in the spring of 1911 to look for a homestead. Mr. Hobbs and his two sons, Fred and George, drove from Calgary with a team and wagon taking three days for the trip. They first homesteaded at Caroline. Fred and George built a log cabin. Mr. Hobbs Sr. worked in the coal mines near Nordegg along with Mr. McGrandle to add to their income. They lived on this homestead until 1918 when Mrs. Hobbs Sr. passed away.

Fred worked for Dr. Gilray until he enlisted in the spring of 1915. George enlisted the same year at sixteen years of age. Both were in Vimy Ridge. George was wounded and returned home in 1918. Fred was wounded and blinded with gas and was discharged in 1919 and returned to Innisfail. Fred and I (Sarah Flinn) were married March 25, 1919. We rented the Simon Fead farm first, then bought a quarter which was the original Buckham land. The land was cleared by hand, in order to build our home. There were no fences, no roads and it was real pioneering. We had to take cattle to neighbors for water until we dug a well (seven years later). Fred worked from dawn to night. Our first neighbors were Simon and Norman Fead, and Dave Perry (who moved in the same year).

Fred and I had a family of six children: Ruth (Mrs. Sol Toews). They reside in Acme and have 5 children: Gordon, Fred, Cora, Irma and Harvey. Blanche, (Mrs. John Job), lived in the Clarendon district and have recently retired to Innisfail (1973). They have two children: Stewart and Myrna: Gwen (Mrs. Reed Markham) resides in the Aberdeen district. They have 6 children: Lester, Muriel, Phyllis, Carol, Stanley and Lois: Irene, (Mrs. Ernie Wooley), resides at Sooke, B.C. and they have two children: Mark and Anne. George married Edna Bamguart. They live in Rocky Mountain House and have 4 children: Loretta, Kenneth, Dale and Cheryl. John, married Betty Gerrard, and live on the home farm in the Grahamston district. They have 4 children: Brenda, William, James, and Richard.

We had hard time, but a happy home life. The worst tragedy was one that struck our close neighbors the Rutledges in 1920 when the home and family were destroyed by fire. Another personal catastrophe was when George was cutting feed with a hammer mill. It was getting dark and he pushed a bundle in and looked for his glove and had no hand! He stayed in the hospital one week then came home to us. He has continued working as any man with two hands through confidence and determination. He can take a tractor, or anything, apart and put it together better with one hand than most can do with two hands. Gwen nursed, Irene was in the W.W.II service and

travelled from East to West in Canada, George was in the Navy in W.W.II. I recall Dr. Dorsey looking after Ruth when she had small pox. I did the nursing and we were quarantined for six weeks. I had to throw out eggs, cream etc. We couldn't sell a thing. Neighbors would bring our groceries and mail leaving them at the corner of the farm for us.

Fred and I were engaged in mixed farming and continued until we retired to Innisfail due to Fred's failing health in 1966. Fred was a Municipal Weed Inspector for many years and road boss for the Municipality. He helped build corralls for fairs in Innisfail and was a very active Legion member. He was always a highly respected citizen.

We were fortunate to be able to celebrate our 50th Wedding Anniversary in 1969 when all our relatives and friends gathered.

Fred Hobbs passed away June 13, 1972 and is buried in the Innisfail Field of Honor.

The first Newspaper printed and published in Innisfail was the FREELANCE 1895; prior to that there was an Innisfail supplement in one of the Calgary papers.

F.M. Oldham had a newspaper called the INNISFAIL STANDARD for a short time in 1898. S.P. Fream started the INNISFAIL PROVINCE in 1906.

P. J. Bouchier

AUCTIONEER AND GENERAL COMMISSION AGENT. Sales conducted at any point on the Calgary and Edmonton Railway. Agent for Bouchier & Ogden, Fire and Life Insurance, Money Harris Co.

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DEALER IN LUMBER AND SUPPLY. FURNITURE etc. Large stock on hand. Special prices on orders. CASH ON DELIVERY. All work done promptly and guaranteed free class.

INNISFAIL

Vol. 1 No. 17

INNISFAIL, ALBERTA, TUESDAY JUN 20, 1906

PRICE FIVE CENTS

HOTEL ALBERTA

Close to the depot and convenient to all the business places in town. Good rooms, excellent cuisine and the bar supplied with the first class sample rooms. LIQUORS and CIGARS for commercial men. of the finest quality. TERMS—From \$1.50 to \$2.00 Per Day. G. T. LUNDY, Proprietor, --- Innisfail

S. P. FREAM

AUCTIONEER AND REAL ESTATE AGENT. LOANS ON CHATTEL SECURITIES ARRANGED. ISSUER OF MARRIAGE LICENSES, AND REGISTRAR OF BIRTHS, MARRIAGES AND DEATHS FOR RED DEER ELECTORAL DISTRICT. AGENT FOR AMERICAN CREAM SEPARATOR. INNISFAIL --- ALBERTA.

R. C. SMITH..

GENERAL TINSMITH STOVES FINWARE AND DAIRY SUPPLIES

Manufacturer of the celebrated CLIPPER PUMP and COLLAPSIBLE COOKSTOVE. INNISFAIL --- ALBERTA

Frost & Woods

Farm Implements

We have received the first car load of these celebrated implements

NOTES OF THE TOWN

Mr. W. H. Kemp took a trip down to Calgary rounding up a steer.

A successful cattle sale was held last Saturday by Mr. P. J. Bouchier. Mr. Robert Smith is improving his property by erecting a fence round his house and putting in a garden.

Mr. A. T. Wells who is leaving for the old country held a sale by auction last week. The sale was conducted by Mr. P. J. Bouchier and everything fetched a big price. There was a big attendance, notwithstanding the hot weather, which were perfectly awful.

Mr. S. P. Fream sent down to Ottawa a protest with numerous signatures against the leasing of the school section west of the town. If Innisfail made a village they should try to get a lease of the land to improve it for the general use of the inhabitants. It would be a great misfortune if it were leased out.

Mr. and Mrs. H. McTaggart are a visit to the neighborhood. They came in from Paul's Creek creek last week.

Mr. J. Bouchier sold two car loads of cattle last Friday. One was worth growing at 45¢ a bushel.

Mr. J. Bouchier, postmaster at Tindastoll, had the misfortune to break his leg last week. Dr. Thompson, the broken limb.

Mr. Thompson informed that there is no truth in the report that Dr. Thompson is about to leave Innisfail.

A delegation of Islanders from Dakota arrived here last week representing 70 families, who, if the country is suitable, expect to settle out here.

We are sorry to report the death of Mr. J. Allen a recent arrival in the neighborhood. He was buried in the Innisfail cemetery last Friday.

Mr. Archibald, another recent settler, is also dead.

Mr. Ostrander, of the Massey-Harris company, was in town last week. He reports a tremendous increase in

days previously. The owner went down and identified the animal, but it appears that the offender wherever it was could not be brought to book. The animal was a steer raised here and the last thing it would be likely to do would be to walk to Calgary on its own account.

A number of somewhat similar incidents have occurred. One man, well known for his shrewdness and skill with stock, took the precaution of getting up at daybreak and going down to see a hand leave for the south and was in time to see a cowboy trying to drive into the barn a valuable milch cow belonging to him and the calf was already rounded up. No explanations were offered.

The first case referred to is that of the steer came on before the Police at Calgary, but owing to the state of the law or some other difficulty the case was not proceeded with.

There seems to be absolutely no protection at all to the community with regard to cattle. Cattle stealing is being done right along, and one could count the convictions in Alberta for the last two years on the fingers of one hand. If the state of the law is to blame, we suppose the law can be amended. At the present time the law relating to the evidence in a cattle stealing case is the same as regards all cases of theft, and to convict, all sorts of things have to be proved, which are well nigh impossible in such cases.

It looks as if those driving cattle through were under no responsibility with regard to animals belonging to someone else, rounded up carelessly or accidentally, and that the responsibility rested with the owners to see that their cattle were not absorbed by passers by.

Anybody who has in his possession or in his hand an animal not belonging to him should be made to account and be held responsible for its presence, and the unfortunate owner should be given the right to sue for the animal was taken away and stolen, or prove that it was not by accident that the animal was in his hand.

The Brand Ordinance, the General Criminal Law, and all the other laws and ordinances seem to be utterly useless in these and similar cases.

The Brand Ordinance, for instance, taking it at its best, is to be utterly practically a dead letter, up here any way. We don't think the fault is with the executive force entirely.

CRICKET

The Innisfail Cricket club held its annual meeting on Monday, the 12th inst, at the office of Mr. F. M. Oldham.

Mr. G. Munro was appointed president, and Dr. George vice president. Mr. H. M. Douglas, captain; Mr. R. Milligan, secretary treasurer; and Messrs Bouchier, Oldham and Thompson, committee of management.

The annual subscription was fixed at \$1.

The Pine Lake Cricket club played a match with the Red Deer club last week at Red Deer, which was singularly unfortunate for the home team. Pine Lake went in first and after putting together 185 runs they declared the innings closed at the seventh wicket. Of this Pardo made 84 with-out giving a chance, finally being caught by a ball of the arm. Graham made 56, batting in very nice style. Bert Afford made 30, Douglas 25, Palkes 15, Barber 8, Evans, who carried his bat 6, and Charley 4, being caught in the long field the first ball. Extras were 17.

Red Deer then went in and made 11 runs, the bowling of Douglas and Barber being too much for them. Of course Red Deer had hard luck three men being run out owing to the smart fielding of Briggs, but all the same we are afraid it was a sad procession. Red Deer seems to be slightly out of practice. Pine Lake is playing Calgary here today and much interest is felt in the result of the match.

THE RICHMOND HORROR

Graphic Description of the Passing of the Storm

New Richmond, June 14.—Struck as by a mighty ram from the sky, New Richmond is also a total ruin. Out of about 500 houses in the town, 350 are total wrecks. In the direct path of the cyclone not so much as a single post stands upright. Everything is crushed flat. A scene of desolation, destruction and devastation to surpass it cannot be imagined. The citizens are bewildered, impoverished and bereaved. It is difficult to get a concise account of the fearful catastrophe. Rev. Father Deegan, of the Immaculate Conception, tells the best story. He says:

It was standing on the porch of

Your Wants

will be numerous this spring.

We Can Supply

Your wants, Milk Cans, Milk Pails, Creamers, Cream Cans, Churns and all dairy supplies.

Hot quarters for all kinds of shell and heavy

Hardware, Barb Wire, Etc., Etc.

The famous Anthony Wayne

WASHING MACHINES

are the best.

Innisfail Hardware Company.

HOCKEN STORY by Gib Hocken

My Father, Mark Hocken, came first to the United States from England. He worked there until he married and then he and his wife, Nora, came to Innisfail in 1912. Here he found work on the section of the railroad and then in the brick yard. He decided, that he wanted to farm so moved west of town to where the Fish & Game park now is. Times were hard and little money was obtained to buy groceries by selling wood to the people in town.

Then they moved across to the place where Brian Kelly is now. Our family consisted of 5 boys and 2 girls: Gib (married Mrs. Perry), Agnes (Mrs. Nance), Bessie (Mrs. Davis), Fred (married Ruby Thompson), Keith (married Betty Cammidge) Bruce (married Dorothy Cammidge) and Max (married Miss Spears).

Dad knew the Husbands, Curtices and Percys in England. His first neighbor was the Neilsons.

I attended school at Oklahoma along with some of the Robinsons, Brian Kelly and Sandborns. Our recreation was horse-back riding. A great day was when we would go to town and have 10c to spend for hard candy.



Mr. and Mrs. Mark Hocken

One hot day at school all the windows and doors were open and the teacher said the one that ran to and from the barn the fastest would get a dime. I jumped through the window and was back before the others had got out the door.

There were 6 boys and 1 girl in the services in WWII from our family. One boy was a step brother.

Mr. Quantz was my first teacher.

I married Evelyn Sandborn in 1936 and had 2 sons: Donnie & Lyle. Both now live in Red Deer.

My Dads' first wife died in 1929 and he later married Mrs. Ellis who had one son Harold. She passed away in 1971. Dad died in 1972 at the age of 84 yrs.

HODGE FAMILY by Robert A. Stuart

After they finished school, Wm. Hodge, Jr. and Hugh Hodge came to Innisfail in 1905 and took out homesteads in the Raven district. Canada had appealed to the boys as a land of adventure and great opportunity. Back home, their dad, Wm. Hodge Sr., ran a dry goods and house furnishing shop in Gourrock, Renfrewshire, Scotland. William Sr.

decided to move and start a new business in a new land and be nearer his boys. He, his wife, and other children — Marion, Katie, Edith, and Charlie, came to Innisfail in September, 1907. He bought land near Innisfail (SE32-35-28-4).

Wm. Jr. and Hugh had their problems. With wayward animals, bad roads and heavy bush to clear by hand, it wasn't easy for the homesteaders not used to these conditions. The half-broken horses with which they tried to farm didn't take kindly to traces hooked too long and tongues dropping out of neck yokes and sticking into the ground. A sudden bolt of the horses invariably sent democrat, driver and groceries into orbit, leaving the driver to follow the wreckage home on foot, picking up pieces as he went along. A story is told of a neighbor at the Raven coming past various bits of wreckage and meeting Hugh limping along. "What happened, Hughie?" he inquired. "Och — nothing much," was the reply. "I just broke a wee piece off the point o' me tongue". William and Hugh had a young frisky bull which they took out daily to water at the nearby slough and graze the lush marginal grass. To keep him from wandering, where his thoughts of love would have him go, a long picket chain and heavy crow-bar were used to stake him out. On this bright and sunny morning bull and man (Hugh had coils of chain in his hand and crow-bar over his shoulder) were stepping merrily along when suddenly a wasp stung the bull. With a snort, a snap of the tail, and a clicking of heels, he circled, putting a couple of turns of chain, well secured by the bar, around Hugh's neck. The bull continued his run into the slough and leisurely drank his fill, while Hugh extracted his sore and bruised neck from the chain.

Winters were generally more severe than those we have now and often in January and early February, the temperatures would stay well below zero for six weeks at a time. Also, there was more snow — mother used to talk of driving over the fences when going to town. Winter travelling could be quite an ordeal. Jackson's lived at Markerville and to get there you went with the 'mail man'. I believe it was a Mr. Benedictson who drove then. A snappy pair of horses and a sleigh took three or four hours to make the journey and in spite of heavy robes and charcoal foot warmers, the passengers were usually thankful to get to journey's end to a warm wood stove.

About 1908 Wm. Hodge Sr. started a small business in Innisfail in the Aspinall Block with crockery and dishes; and then expanded into the Stone Block as the 'Coliseum' with groceries, boots and shoes, men's and ladies' wear. He had as staff members of the Coliseum — Bill Dodd, Ossie Fawdrey, Mr. J.E. Fawdry, Miss Murphy (who later had the millinery shop), Frances Hall (Mrs. R. Morris), Hugh, Willie and Charlie Hodge, and Percy Hill. During the early years of operation, the three Hodge girls often helped with the clerking. Homesteading was a rough go for Hugh and Willie, so in 1909 they gave up their homesteads and came into business with their father.



Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Hodge and family in Gourrock, Scotland, 1906. L. to R.: Marion, Charlie, Edith, Mrs. Hodge, Mr. Hodge, Mitchell, Hugh, Willie, Katie.

Life was more leisurely then than now. People drove miles in buggies or democrats to house dances or just to visit to pass the long winter evenings. I can recall my mother (Marion) talking of dances at Bryans' and she often mentioned that her first recollection of Frank West was of him peeping over the back of a chair at all the visitors in his father's house. The younger Hodges' Kate, Edith and Charlie, attended school in Innisfail; the others were over school age.

W. H. Jackson lived and worked in Markerville at the creamery, and the butter was hauled to Innisfail via an old Fordson tractor and wagon at that time. Dad recalled that the first time he met Mr. Jackson, (complete with bowler hat), he was well and truly stuck in the sand with his load in what is now the Golf Course. Much has been told about the trials of travel in the early days and the piece of road from the Twin Houses (A.J. Sackville place) to town was a real nightmare, especially where it went diagonally through the present golf course. When the track became practically impassable, they simply abandoned it and made another alongside — hence the many old roadways still visible.

Hugh and Willie took a great interest in their curling and later in golf, when the course got going mainly under the leadership of Dr. G.C. Wagner.



Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Hodge, Jr.

William Hodge Sr. died May 20, 1917 in Innisfail. Mrs. Wm. Hodge Sr. returned to Scotland about 1923 and died in 1927 at Greenock, Scotland.

Willie sold out the Coliseum in 1927 to M.H. Smith who changed the name to 'The Globe Store'. Willie tried the Insurance business, but with the depression found it rough going. In 1935 he opened a grocery store with his son, Stanley, where Percy's Confectionery now is.

Children of Mr. and Mrs. W. Hodge Sr:

Willie Born 1883, married Janie Melby, a girl he knew back home in Greenock. She came here to marry him in 1911-12. Their son Stanley is now in Vancouver and daughter Catherine Cook in Red Deer. Willie died in Innisfail in March 1950.

Marion born in 1885 married Robert Stuart (see Stuart story).

Hugh born in 1890, married Nan Shearer, a teacher who came to the district about 1914. She was one of the early teachers at Buffalo Creek school and taught many years in and around Innisfail. Children — David Mitchell Hodge of Vancouver and Nancy Grue of Minneapolis. Chrys (Mrs. McLellan) died 1970. Hugh died April 23, 1951 at Innisfail.



Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Hodge

Katie married Harry Dodge. Two children — Ted at Victoria and Dorothy Dickens at Vancouver. Katie died August 1946 in Vancouver.

Edith married W.H. Jackson. Children — Wesley at Lacombe, Jack and Edgar at Innisfail and Betty Bell at Edmonton. Edith died in 1937 in Innisfail.

Charlie married May Taylor. Children — Gertie Crea at Qualicum Beach, B.C. and Catherine at Seattle. Charlie served overseas with the Canadian Army and was killed Nov. 6, 1917 at the battle of Paschendale, France.

FRANK HODGES STORY by Peter Hodges

Frank Hodges was born in Letherhead, Surrey, England in 1888. He was educated in England. He and Archie Hoar went to the same Agricultural School in England. Archie came out one month before Frank. Frank was a roamer, travelling to several countries before coming to Canada in 1909.



Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hodges

He first went to Red Deer to work in the Merchants' Bank, later being transferred to Daysland.

Alice Hodges was born in Kimberley, South Africa in 1894. Her father was in charge of the Diamond Mines there. Her mother died when Alice was three years old. Her father left Kimberly with his three daughters and went to England for a short time. He arrived in Red Deer in 1906 to manage the C.P.R. Round House.

Frank and Alice were married in Red Deer on April 10, 1914. When the first World War broke out, he enlisted in the 31st Battalion and went overseas. Mrs. Hodges went to England at this time too. One son, Philip was born in England on June 6, 1915. Frank was wounded in the Battle of Somme and returned to England for recovery. They returned to Canada in March of 1918 by hospital ship. They arrived in Innisfail April 2, 1918 and took up residence on the Mayo farm. Peter was born there on August 11, 1918. Frank took up a Soldier Settlement quarter which was one mile west of the Mayo farm. He had Bill Tiffany build a house and barn and the family moved in the house in 1920. From then on, it was clearing land and breaking, with a few milk cows and chickens to look after as well.

Basil was born June 6, 1921, (the morning Don Manuel was taking the census); Mrs. Bill Daines was midwife.

Langham was born in 1924 and died in 1938; Eileen was born on December 30, 1927; Leslie on June 18, 1930; Sheila on July 6th, 1936.

Philip married Helen Vibert from Craig, Sask. They are now living in Calgary. They have two sons: Dale and Brian.

Peter married Betty Nurcombe and they reside in Innisfail.

Basil married Jean Armstrong from Brantford, Ontario and they have four children: Dave, Beryl, Carol, Tim; Basil passed away in March, 1959, and the family still reside in Ontario.

Eileen married Arthur Newton from Penhold. They have two children: Gail and Douglas. Eileen and Art have a farm four miles southeast of Innisfail.

Leslie married Jackie Kemp. They have four children: Patti, Gregory, Bradley and Kelly. They

reside in Innisfail. Les works for the County of Red Deer.

Sheila married Richard Duff. They have two children: Geoffrey and Sandra, and are all residing in Calgary.

When the second World War broke out, Basil joined the Calgary Highlanders and went overseas for six years, returning home in the spring of 1946. Frank joined the Home Guard at Kananaskis where they had a prisoners of war camp. He served with Bill Malinson and Bob Ditchburn. He was discharged December, 1941 for reasons of poor health. He at this time returned to the farm southeast of Innisfail.

He had a stroke in March of 1942. He was more or less bedridden after that time. They retired into Innisfail and bought a house from Jack Metcalf, next to the Associate Clinic. Dad was a Legion member and was made a life member.

Mother contributed much to the area in entertainment by her piano selections. She had a great musical talent. She was a charter member of the Order of the Eastern Star Chapter in Innisfail and a member of the Legion Auxillary.

Frank Hodges passed away, April, 1959.

Alice Hodges passed away in January of 1967.

HOLDEN STORY by Clarence Holden

Mr. Holden Sr. (Grandad) came West from Lanark County, near Perth Ontario in the late 1890's. He had plans of going to the Gold Rush and did get as far as British Columbia, but not to the Gold fields. He returned to Alberta and to Innisfail where he filed on a homestead in the Aberdeen district. Charles Hill now owns this quarter.

Grandad had two daughters and five sons — all being born in Ontario: Mrs. Jim Cameron, and Mrs. Tom Stanway (daughters) and sons Lemual, Syndey, Samuel, George and Phillip. Lemual married Rachel Ennis in 1898 and he came West in 1899 and Rachel followed in 1900. Their homestead was 3-1/2 miles east and two miles south of Innisfail in the Grahamston district. The other Holden brothers took up homesteads in the Aberdeen and Knee Hill Valley districts.

It was a lumbering area where they had lived in Ontario and so they were well skilled with saws and axes. On Lem's homestead all the buildings were built of logs and it was much later that a frame house came into being.

The wet years were very trying as they could only get to town by travelling on high land. Cattle would get stuck in the sloughs and have to be pulled out or lose them. The mosquitoes were unbearable for people and animals alike.

The first piece of land was small, but large enough to raise a crop that could be used as feed for the livestock. They first cut the grain by hand with a scythe, later they were able to get a mower and finally a binder. Milking cows was their main income. They had a few pigs, ducks and chickens which assisted in making ends meet.

Lemual and Rachels' first neighbors were Mr. & Mrs. I.K. Waite and sons George and Ray. They lived



Lemual Holden homestead

across the road on the north side. To the southwest, was the Thomas Simpsons' and the Kerr family.

All the Holden boys were great painters and carpenters. Lem dug wells, shingled and could do two men's work with an axe. Lem always would buy a plug of "Prince of Wales Smart Spitting Chewing Tobacco" and he would chew this until all the juice was out of it. He would then put it on the window sill to dry out. Next he would smoke it in his pipe and lastly he would take the ashes and use it as snuff. This was real economy! Mrs. Holden Sr. used to smoke a pipe.

Sam got as far as England during World War I, and then his age was discovered and he was sent back home. Phil was a great step dancer and they were all great story tellers. The Lalor boys remember Sydney telling them ghost stories and he was so convincing that he, himself, would be nervous about going home after telling them.

I, Clarence, was born in 1910 and a few months later came into the Lemual Holden family as their foster son. I started school at Grahamston. In 1919, the farm was listed for sale and sold. Lemual died before the auction sale. We moved to Innisfail for two years and I attended school in Innisfail. The farm came back to Rachel and it was then that she married Charlie McDermid (1922). Charlie Jr. was about 1-1/2 years old and I was 9 years old. They farmed until 1943 when they sold out and moved to Innisfail. Rachel died in 1944 and is interred in the Innisfail Cemetery. Charlie McDermid died in 1952. He had been living at Kelowna, B.C.

I was a small boy when I got my first violin and I learned to play it by ear. My life has been full of music and I have enjoyed playing for dances and at house parties. I still have that violin.

I married Jeannie McKay of Lousana (a Niece of Mrs. Frank Laing). We lived in Innisfail until 1948 when we went to Elnora for 9 years. In 1957 we moved to Red Deer where we still reside. We have a family of two boys and a girl. James (married Dianne Shick) resides at Ft. McMurray; Marion (deceased) and Gordon still attending high school in Red Deer and living at home with us.

I think in every boy's life there is an event or two which stand out. To me, it was the dog race! The race was held in March of 1922 in Innisfail. I desperately wanted to enter my small dog, but the others had such good sled dogs. I didn't think I had a chance of winning. I met a neighbor and he offered me a better sleigh and came with me to make sure all was in order.

It was 10 o'clock and we were ready. There was about two inches of slush on the street and also it was

"Horse and Buggy Days" so the streets were covered with horse manure. The starting point was in front of Hodges' Grocery store. A car was standing a block west, near the tracks. We were to go around the car and back to the starting point. Someone blew a horn, and then — all hell broke loose. There was a dog fight to my left and another one to my right. I was so frightened I about died. Out of all the confusion, four or five dogs were running. Frank Malcolm's dog thought they were going home and took Frank out west of town. My competition was Maynard Bond. I got to the car before him and went around it as the rules specified. Maynard didn't get around the car and was disqualified. When the race was finished we were all covered from top to bottom with the slush and what ever else it contained. With the result — Mr. Bond said Maynards' dog could beat mine easy — so, we ran another race (just Maynard and me).



Dog Race, March 1922.

Dr. Gribble was one of the judges and Mr. Bond didn't agree with that either and bet Dr. Gribble that Maynards' dog could still beat mine with a bet of \$100 — so the next morning at ten, we were off again and again, I came first and for a boy 11 years old this was a big moment. See picture.

Frank Cole is holding Earl Vartys' dog, there is Walter Duck, Clarence Holden, Wilfred Shanks, Maynard Bond to name a few. Some of the spectators are: Mr. Percy, Alfred Chute, Tom Lauder, Mr. Beano, Snowden Daines, Syd Jensen, Laurie Jensen, Alf Wade, Harry Cook, Carl Sick and Nobel Shanks.

JOHN HOLMES by the Holmes Family

John Holmes was born at Carleton near Skipton, Yorkshire, England in 1867. His father, Thomas Holmes, was a cotton weaver. John began to apprentice to the weaving trade at the age of eight, working after school hours. At the age of twelve he went to work in a textile mill for 12 hours per day, and had to endure the foul odor from the nearby latrine. He also apprenticed to the butcher trade, and spent some time working on a farm. Later on he was a

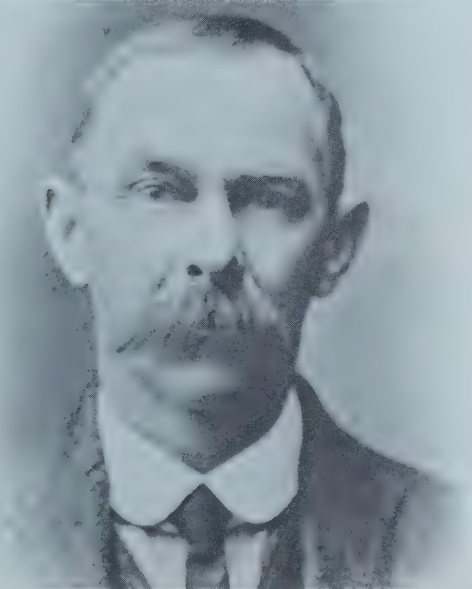
member of the local militia — The West Yorkshire Regiment.

In February 1897 he sailed from Liverpool and landed in New York. The crossing was so rough that holes were worn on the underside of his luggage from sliding around the cabin. There was a heavy snowfall in New York while he was there. All of the snow was cleared away before noon by hundreds of men shovelling it into huge horse-drawn wagons. While there he was approached by a couple of slickers who tried to interest him in investing his money for a quick return, but he did not accept their offer.

From New York he went to St. Boniface, Manitoba where he worked for a French Canadian market gardener. After helping with the stack threshing, he returned to England to settle the affairs of his recently deceased mother. He came back to Canada in 1898, carrying with him a leather bag containing the equivalent of \$1000 in gold sovereigns. These were carefully wrapped individually to prevent them from clinking. He lived in constant fear of losing them, and pretended poverty. While on the train he met a man who had been robbed. Mr. Holmes offered him a half loaf of bread and the man took it in both hands and wolfed it down.

Upon arriving in Calgary, he was impressed by how smart the Royal North West Mounted Police looked in their uniforms with pill box hats. Since the hats offered no protection, the men all had sunburned faces.

From Calgary John took a train to Edmonton, being bound for the Kondike gold rush by the overland route. There was a washout at Poplar Grove, causing a delay of several days. Meanwhile, he hired a horse and rode west. The beauty of the land so impressed him that he decided to stay. He bought a quarter of land from Jack Lind in the Little Red Deer district, and later purchased another east of it. His residence was a pole sod-roofed shack.



John Holmes



John Holmes' residence

On August 25, 1899 he married Mary Ann Munro. The ceremony was performed by W.L. Atkinson, the Presbyterian minister at Poplar Grove with John Duncan and Sarah Constantine as witnesses.

Mary Ann was a triplet and had come with her parents, Mr. & Mrs. Roderick Munro, to the Bowden area in 1895 from Inverness, Scotland. Mr. Munro had been a tailor in Scotland. After coming to Canada he farmed for awhile before taking up the tailoring trade in Red Deer. He and his son Jack operated the business known as Munro's Men's Wear. A younger son, Alex, was a barber in Innisfail. Prior to her marriage, Mary Ann had worked for the Robinson family on the farm next to John Holmes.

John and Mary set up housekeeping in the pole shack and started to build the log house which was to be their home for many years. By winter the roof was not completed so they covered it with canvas. They thus spent a chilly and uncomfortable winter.

Their neighbors were: John Robinson, Nat. Wright, John Duncan, Sam Hamilton, John Brown, Jackson and Herbert Newsham, Jim and Brose Vreeland, Billie Burton, McKenzie-Grieves, Spiers, Duke Wildman, Sinclairs, Forresters, Baars, and Edgars.

They made their living mainly by milking cows and selling cream. George Atkinson was the cream hauler. Billy Burton later took it over from him.

In the fall the neighbors took together to drive the cattle to market in Innisfail.

Prairie chickens were very plentiful and could be seen sitting on the fence rails as far as the eye could see.

Once John had to go to town with John Duncan. Mr. Duncan bought a bottle of whiskey and persuaded John Holmes to share it on the way home. John was not a drinking man and by the time he reached home he was very much the worse for wear. His wife was so annoyed that he never did become drunk again.

Billy Wright trapped muskrats on the Holmes farm. He would come over on a saddle horse, towing his younger brother Allan on a toboggan with a lariat. Once when some of the Holmes boys were riding to school with him in a cutter, he was driving a pair of broncos. They were travelling at full gallop when they turned into the school yard. The cutter and

passengers stopped at the gate post and the horses went on!

Mr. Holmes kept a record of expenditures and income from 1905 to 1914, and the merchants he dealt with. In 1905 a subscription to 'The Free Lance' was \$1.00. In 1905 a haircut cost 25c and one dozen eggs were 15c. The livery stable cost 25c and twenty pounds of white sugar was \$1.10. A dressed hog was 6-1/2c per pound and school taxes were \$15.20. He paid a note to the International Harvester Co. on a binder and a mower with the rate of interest being 7%. In 1907 G.W. West bought a cowhide for 6c per pound and gave credit for \$2.70. In 1909 two pair of boy's overalls cost \$1.80. In 1913 he sold three steers weighing 3,400 pounds for \$4.75 per hundred weight. Local improvement taxes were \$16.00.

Mrs. Holmes died on November 30, 1914 at the age of 34, immediately following the birth of her eleventh child. Sam Hamilton and his wife adopted the baby.

The following year Mr. Holmes rented his farm to Charlie Knipe and returned to England with eight of the children. The two older boys, Frank and Henry, stayed to work for neighbors. In 1917 John came back to his farm in Innisfail and in 1927 his son Walter returned to Canada. Mr. Holmes died in 1946.

Children:

Francis (Frank), a mechanic, died in 1971 in Innisfail.

Henry married Laura Baker from the West Lynne district and both are living in Innisfail.

Alexander (Alex) married Evelyn Johnson from High Prairie, where they both reside.

Alfred died in 1925 in Lethbridge; buried in Innisfail.

Walter married Helen Lanning of Oregon; they live at Castwon, B.C.

Ernie married Irene Colebank of Hixon, B.C.; lives at Summerland, B.C.

Ellis served in W.W.II as a signalman and married Olwen Edwards from Redhill, Surrey.

David, a bachelor, lives on North Island, New Zealand.

Margaret Ellen married J.W. Hutchison from Haney, B.C. where they reside.

Fred married Margaret Atkins from Embsay, Yorkshire, England; they live in England.

Roy was in the Air Force during W.W.II; he married Roberta Fleming from Oliver, B.C. and they live in Calgary.

HOLT STORY by Mrs. Mabel Oxtoby

My father, Charles A. Holt was born in Kongsvinger, Norway, November 9, 1863. My mother was the former Anna Heiam. She was born in Trodjem, Norway on September 30, 1869. They both emigrated to Minnesota and were married in Duluth in May, 1896.

There was a friend of my fathers who had cousins, the William Hewitt family, at Innisfail, Canada. It was because of them that my father made a trip out to see the country and take up a homestead. The

following year, after a long tiring train trip we arrived in Innisfail (my parents, Mabel, Clarence and Edwin). We shipped all our belongings including furniture, pictures and even a high wheeled baby carriage. It was especially a change for my mother in leaving a city home to take up residence in a log house on the prairie. We landed in Innisfail, March 4, 1904. We stayed with the Hewitt family for a month. I remember when we moved that there was a log barn where we had four quiet milk cows, some pigs, and some chickens. We children loved the animals and learned to milk cows at a very young age. My father had worked on farms in the States after leaving Norway in 1881 and he had also apprenticed as a carpenter. His heart was in farming and he believed that this was the best place to raise a family.

My father worked early and late on the homestead. It was his habit to get up at 4 a.m. every morning, getting the land cleared and getting a house underway. He hauled stones from a quarry a few miles away for the foundation. His hands used to be bleeding while doing this. He worked so hard as there was so much to do. The house was erected, but not finished and the winters were very cold in those early years. A trip to town took a whole day. While getting a load of lumber and groceries we needed had to be bought at the same time or done without until the next trip. Wests' store seemed to be the headquarters for lumber and groceries and we children would look forward to the bag of candy that was always tucked in with the groceries.

My parents were good friends of the Hewitts and occasionally would walk the mile to go and visit them. Other early friends were the Charley and Wm. Gunstons.

The summers seemed too short and the winters long with huge banks of snow. We always had a good garden and flocks of prairie chicken were quite common.

In harvest time my brother Clarence, with his rifle kept us well supplied. When the grain was ready to be harvested it was cut with a binder, then it was stooked (about 8 or 10 sheaves to a stook). When it was cured enough to keep, bundle racks with most of the sides removed were used to pick up the stooks and made stacks of them to be threshed later. It was quite an art to build a symmetrical stack. My Dad liked to build huge round stacks. The tops of them



Brand new Model T, 1916. Mr. and Mrs. Holt, sons Clarence and Edwin.

were tapered off nicely so they could withstand any rain. This is where the prairie chicken gathered. Every morning, we managed to get two or three birds. They were lovely and plump and all dark meat.

Anthony Smith had the only big steam threshing outfit around at this time and so it took some time to thresh all the farmers' crops in the district. But when the threshing outfit arrived you really knew it! There was close to twenty men on the outfit. They would bring a caboose with them to sleep in. Before the threshers came we had to butcher an animal, bake loaves of bread, cakes, cookies and have all the other supplies on hand. I often wonder how my Mother managed. But, we always seemed to have a good crop except for one year when we had a very bad hail storm and were completely hailed out.

In the winter, we used to have skating parties on Horse Shoe Lake. The young folks from all miles around would gather around a bon fire and get warm and visit in between skates. In the summer, baseball was a great favorite. Even when boys and girls were visiting neighbors a ball game would occur. It seems that more visiting was done in the early years when the only locomotion was walking or riding horseback.

We didn't have much money in those days. I believe that 25c then would buy more than a dollar would now. We did a lot of trading. Trading a crate of eggs for groceries. In the dirty thirties Jews from Calgary came up and bought live hens for 25c each and they were traded for fresh fruits that we would can.

My parents had five children:

Mabel Agnes — born February 21, 1897 and married Milton Russel Oxtoby in 1918. See Oxtoby story.

Clarence Arthur — born Sept. 29, 1898 and married Blanche Saunders in Aug. 1924. Clarence and Blanche have three children: Stanley (m. Ruby Bennett) and have four children; Thel (Mrs. Fred Goldstrom) and have two children; and Edna (Mrs. Keith Sveinson) and have three children.

Edwin Oliver was born Mar. 19, 1902 and married Miltons' sister Mabel Oxtoby Jan. 1, 1927. Edwin and Mabel have one son Carl who married Doris Munro and they have two children.

Raymond William was born the year after we came to Canada in May, 1905. He never married.

Norman Alexander was born in May 1907 and married Thelma Stringer in Jan. of 1934. Norman and Thelma have two sons: Wayne and Donald (who has four children).

My brother Norman joined the Calgary Highlanders and went overseas in 1940.

I remember going to Pleasant Valley school (I had my first grade at Duluth). A new brick school which my father helped plan was built on the top of a hill. Some of the schoolmates I can remember were: the Pollocks, the Moffats, the Gunstons, Corinne Heather, Sadie Wynn and Alice Bilton. Some of my teachers were Misses Tyndall, Alma Whealon and Leone MacDiarmid. Those teachers really had their



Mr. C. A. Holt, Joe Gianoni, and Charlie Tedeschi

hands full teaching all grades in a one-room country school.

I recall with fond memories Miss Adelaide Whealon who had the store and post office at Knee Hill Valley; Bill Whealon the blacksmith; the Buncays. Bill and John were hard working bachelors until John surprised us with his marrying a Scotch lass Kate; Gus Roper the English bachelor neighbor Tom Stanway who hauled mail from Innisfail to Knee Hill Valley with a couple of cayuses and cutter; Sydney Holden a good painter and born story teller; Tom Smiths' Jim Scotts and Mr. Arthur Pollock who taught Sunday school; Mr. Mirkup whose only mode of travel was by oxen.

My Dad was an Orangeman before coming to Canada. In later years he joined the Masonic Lodge and also the Knights of Pythias. There was the Milnerton Fair which was always an event we looked forward to.

By now Dad acquired a democrat and built the box and painted it black. It had cushions and we had a fine team of horses. We were really stepping out with it. There was the annual picnic at Horse Shoe Lake. The day would likely end up with a barn dance at some recently built barn. It was about the fall of 1916 that we purchased our new Model T Ford Car. It gave us much pleasure and saved so much time.

The highlight of my life was when my parents ordered a piano for me. (1913). It was winter when it arrived and it was brought out in a sleigh. It tipped over into a snow bank, but loaded it again and I still have it. I took music lessons from Mrs. Martin and later from Miss Hoar. My brothers learned to play the violin, guitar and banjo and so amongst us we spent many melodious evenings.

In later years Mr. & Mrs. Holt took a trip each winter to Oregon and California. In 1937 Mr. Holt took a trip to Norway (fifty-six years after he had left Norway). He was so happy with this trip that next year he took Mrs. Holt with him. About 1935 they bought a house in Innisfail and retired from active farming.

Clarence Holt died from an accident on Nov. 20, 1949. His son Stanley and family now operate his farm. His widow resides in Innisfail. Raymond Holt who owned the original farm sold it to Doug Smith and is now retired and resides in Calgary. Norman

Holt is retired from a Construction company and resides in Vancouver. His wife Thelma died in 1943.

Mrs. Anna Holt died on January 10, 1941. Mr. Charles Holt died on October 6, 1941. They were laid to rest in the Innisfail Cemetery.

BENJAMIN LEM HOOPER by Robert & John Hooper

Ben Hooper was born at Milton, P.E.I. on October 6, 1878. He came west in Sept. 1901 on a 'Harvest Special' — a train where the CPR & H.B.Co. paid 2/3 and the men only 1/3 of the fare. From Calgary, he travelled by ox-cart to Running Knee (Carstairs) and from there joined a 'train' of covered wagons to Innisfail. A Mr. Watt, a horse buyer, took him to see land east of Innisfail. During the winter of 1901-02 he worked at the Burns Feedlot Camp for his board and in the summer helped cut hay. In the fall, he threshed for Charlie Brown and when some of the men went to Hanna in the fall of 1902 to work on threshing crews, Ben joined them. They threshed for a Mr. Byman until snow came and then stacked green feed when it was too wet to thresh. Mr. Byman sold Ben a team of horses, a wagon, and a walking plow. Ben had liked the looks of land near Three Hills Creek and in the spring of 1903 he returned to the Innisfail district to file for a homestead on NE 2-35-26-4 (1/2 miles north of James Layden).

He lived in his wagon until he built a barn for the horses; then lived in a room in the barn during that first summer. To build the barn, he dug a hole in the side of a hill, then built walls and roof with poles and sod. He hayed that summer for Mr. Page and Mr. Cuddy east of Pine Lake, and during the winter hauled hay bales for the Burns Feedlot into Innisfail. These bales were tied with wire and weighed 90 to 100 lbs. He was paid 10c a load for hauling. In 1904, using his team and plow, he hired out to neighbors to plow fireguards. From 1904 to 1907 he worked with Ed Ferguson plowing land. Money was hard to come by and he was glad when Mr. G.W.West agreed to back him so he could borrow his train fare for a visit back to P.E.I. in the fall of 1907. He returned in the spring of 1908 and freighted oats, wood, coal and groceries for forty miles around.

He had met Sam Hornett, (the strong man who once pulled a wagonload of cream out of a mudhole as well as the bogged-down team), and in 1902 started hauling cream for him. He hauled cream to the Innisfail creamery, meat and oats to trade at G.W.West's. It cost 25c a night to put the horses in the livery barn and the men would sleep on the creamery floor.

Ben lived by the code of the Plain — "leave a lamp lit in the window at night to guide passers-by on the trail". His log shack was never locked and a pot of soup or beans was always on the stove. He always kept a bottle of water for a man to drink and oats and water for his horse.

In the fall of 1914 he travelled with a shipment of Mr. Watt's horses, bound for overseas, to Halifax; spent the winter at P.E.I., and renewed friendship with a school mate, Margaret Jane Coles. Margaret

came west on July 5, 1917. Margaret and Ben were married on July 6, 1917 in Innisfail. Mr. James Layden had a car at that time and he drove the newlyweds home. Wedding gifts they received were: one cow and calf from Layden's; one hen with six chicks and one pair of geese from Mrs. Weir; and a pig from Mr. Darragh. At that time their 14'x14' one room log house boasted one small table, two chairs, a small cookstove and a bed. Drinking water was hauled on a stoneboat from the spring 1/2 mile away. Fences were few in the country; Ben and his wife put a pole fence around the barn behind which their oats and hay were kept; otherwise straying horses and cattle would eat it all during the night.

In the fall of 1917, with his wife helping, they threshed 200 bushels of oats for feed. This was done with a hand flail and by driving the horse over the oats to tramp them out, cleaning away the straw and fanning the oats out in the wind. They made some of their trips to town in the old wagon, but that fall ordered a new light wagon and a democrat from a mail order house in Winnipeg.



Mr. and Mrs. Ben Hooper, 1947.

Sam Hornett saved Ben's life when they were hauling lumber for the CPR. Ben slipped on some ice and fell off the load — Sam pushed the horses out of the way and pulled him out. He broke his shoulder and wore Sam's belt strapped around it for three weeks.

Ben helped put a road through the bush to Ghost Pine by hauling wood that was used for 'corduroy' base through the swamp. He traded this wood for coal which he hauled to Innisfail. Here he traded the coal for boots made by Peter Flannigan, worth \$2.00 and made from horse or cow hide. Pants made from deerskin were worth 90c and overcoats made from horseblankets and Buffalo skins were \$2.00.

People from miles around came to wash blankets in the Three Hill Creek. While waiting for them to dry they would play horseshoes, and lacrosse — a sports day and wash day combined. It was the beginning of the Milnerton Fair. Some would fish in the creek, build a fire and cook supper for all. The Weirs and Laydens organized many barn building bees. They would build barn all day and dance all night.

James Abe Coles, Margaret's brother, came here in 1916, but soon left to homestead in Westlock. In

1918 Margaret's sister, Sofie Charlotte Coles, came out to Innisfail and in 1920 married Harry Wilton who had a cream station at Knee Hill Valley.

Ben and Margaret visited P.E.I. together in 1924. Ben Hooper died Nov. 30, 1954. Margaret Hooper, Born Nov. 30, 1878, lived on the homestead until 1961 when she retired to Autumn Glen Lodge in Innisfail. She died Oct. 17, 1968 in Camrose.

Children: John Coles Hooper — born Sept. 6, 1919 and Robert George Hooper — born Jan. 28, 1926, bachelors, are still on the original farm. Victor Benjamin Hooper, born May 24, 1922 married Alice Dolly Wheale on July 6, 1955. They have five children — Roy, Victor, Roberta, Murray, and Cathy and live at Enderby, B.C.

Ben Hooper's Bachelor Fare:

Buns: 1 cup flour, 1 tsp. salt mixed with a little water and baked on a stone in a hot campfire. Fried frog's legs; roast prairie chicken, wild duck or venison; baked rabbit; stewed pigeon; scalloped prairie chicken eggs; potatoes baked in hot coals; baked beans in blackstrap molasses and Mulligan Stew — meat, potatoes, beans, rice and turnips.

Mrs. Wier's buns — 4 cups graham flour or oat groats; 3 tbs. butter or fat of some kind; pinch of salt; 1 cup of sugar; 1 tsp soda beaten into 1 cup sour milk.

Different kinds of buggies: Democrats, road wagons, delivery wagons, meat wagons, ranchmans one seated road wagons, gents fancy rubber tired driving buggies, gents fancy steel tired driving buggies, top buggies, surreys, skeleton carts and buggy carts.

J.W. HOPKINS by Jim & Marie Hopkins

Mr. & Mrs. James Wilson Hopkins came from Lousana, Alberta to the Craig district by team and wagon in 1921, moved to Markerville in 1924, and Innisfail in 1928.

Mr. J. W. (Jim) Hopkins was born in St. Thomas, Ontario Aug. 31, 1885. He came west with his parents, one brother Bill and two sisters, Annie May and Kate, by train to homestead in the Trenville district. Jim Hopkins farmed until he came to Innisfail where he owned and operated a coal and feed business until 1941. He married Mrs. Belle Griffiths in 1921. She came from Hancock, Iowa in 1910 to the Trenville district where her first husband died in 1919.

Mrs. Belle Hopkins had a family of four by her first marriage and one son by her second marriage.

Iola, who married Louis Sveinson of Markerville in 1929. Louis was deceased on Oct. 2, 1966.

Lee Griffiths of Innisfail who married Doris Aldridge of Innisfail in 1931. Their family consists of three girls and 1 boy. Joyce married Stan Fox of Innisfail now living in Edmonton. Their family is Bruce, Donald and Barbara.

Margaret married Ernie Viercant of Rycroft, Alta.

and they have Karen, Dianne Gail and Valerie. Betty married Wayne Anderson of Dickson. They have one boy, Billy. Kenneth married Heather Wilkie of Innisfail.

Bessie (twin) married Buster Ewer of Calgary in 1943. Buster was deceased Feb. 14, 1971.

Jessie (twin) of Innisfail died in 1946.

Jim (J.R.) married Marie Davidson of Innisfail in 1945. Their family consists of: Yvonne (D.H.E.) married Denis Kennedy (D.A.) of Medicine Hat in 1971. Kent is a city policeman in Calgary. Beverly is finishing Grade 12 in Innisfail.

Mr. & Mrs. J.W. Hopkins played the piano and fiddle for dances and entertainment for a nominal fee of two or three dollars an evening.

The late Margaret Dixon of Penhold was one of Bessie, Jessie and Jim's school teachers at Markerville.

Mr. Jim Hopkins Sr. was a member of the Canadian Order of Foresters at Lousana and the Knights of Pythias in Innisfail. Mrs. Belle Hopkins was a member of the Rebecca Lodge in Iowa.

Mr. J. W. Hopkins died in August of 1945 and Mrs. J.W. Hopkins died in January of 1948; both are laid to rest in the Innisfail cemetery.

Their son Jim and his wife Marie started a cleaning business in Innisfail in 1946, known as Central Cleaners. Their hobby is raising Arabian horses at Holiday Ranch since 1960 and also the ranch is known as the Hub of Square and Round dancing in Central Alberta where Jim calls and they teach dancing in their hall, which was originally Moose Mountain Hall, previously owned by Jimmy Weatherspoon. At present they are operating weekend dance camps once a month in the summer for people with their own tents, campers or trailers. They have both been active in community organizations such as Home and School, Chamber of Commerce, Lions (Jim is a past District Governor), Masonic Lodge, Eastern Star, and the United Church. Many times we have said it is our desire to make this place a better place in which to live.

THE LEONARD HORNETT FAMILY by Lotty Healy

Leonard and Sara Hornett came from the Village of Radanag, Oxfordshire, England. Leonard Hornett, my dad, ran a flour mill in the old Country. It ran by steam, wind and water. I was born at Kingsy Water Mill in 1881, and was a babe-in-arms when we moved to Radanag. My Mother insisted on the move to get away from the dust of the mill. Six years later we left for Canada. Dad felt the family would have better opportunities in the new country and had read much of the C.P.R. advertisements about the great offers of land. I recall the family (my parents, Leonard, Emily, Lily and me Lotty) travelling to Highwycome and seeing the lamp lighter going along the street with his lighter on the end of a pole lighting the lamps. When we came to London we saw electricity for the first time. We arrived in Calgary November 5, 1891. Calgary didn't seem like it should belong in our world. The hills were brown and dead, the



Leonard and Sara Hornett

sidewalks were planks, the street dusty and bucking horses here and there. I remember Mother looking out of the train window as we approached the Calgary depot, saying "I don't see any grapevines arched over the doorways of the houses". As the train stopped, father got out and said "The wind is the coldest I have ever known. I am afraid we will have children freeze before we can get them anywhere.

My Uncle Sam, with his son Arthur, joined us in Calgary at Christmas. Sam worked at the Stone quarry in Calgary and Arthur was in my charge at this time.

My Dad went north to look for a homestead. Mr. Crocksford, an old friend and neighbor had come out just after we did and had taken a homestead west of Poplar Grove. His family came from England in the spring. Dad met Mr. Tom Wells in Innisfail one day and Tom said there was lots of land out by him, so in the wagon Dad climbed and finally decided on some land in the Hill End District. Mr. Bechervaise got land the same time in the same district and so the two men worked together building their dug outs. Dad dug a hole 12x 12, a little over three feet deep. He put five or six small logs around it. Tiny poles were for the roof. He cut a layer of grass with a scythe, then placed them on top of cut squares of prairie sod. He then added lots of clay (this roof never leaked). The door was rather low and had steps leading down inside.

By the spring of 1892 settlers were moving in — H. Brush, A. Ford, G. Raino, Songhursts' and J. Tillier amongst them. In 1892 the C & E railroad was operating from Calgary to Edmonton making two trips each week. Dad was able to pick up a team and wagon, a cook stove, harness, etc. that were left behind from the people working on this railroad.

In remembering our trip from Calgary up here, I recall that we loaded the wagon with trunks, bedding, tent, poles, lantern and feed for horses. We had a milk cow tied behind. We had no idea how many days it would take us to make this trip. There were six stopping houses on the way — some would give us water, others refused. Water was very scarce. There had been no rain and the creeks were dry. At last we

arrived at Poplar Grove. Mr. Field ran a drug store, Mr. Constantine had a stopping house. We called at Mr. G. Wests' store and bought eats. Soon after, we turned off the road, followed the wagon tracks and passed over the C.P.R. track following around to Antler Hill. We passed Mr. J. Faaras' place, Wavy Lake and eventually to our shack on the hill.

Dad and Leonard cut and trimmed logs in our own bush and with the horses got them together and built a stable for the cow and horses. My Dad then had the task of starting to farm. A neighbor, Mr. Eastman broke the first three acres of land. I remember when I was nine years of age I accompanied my father on foot-driving an old mare, hauling a stone boat to Penhold to get some seed grain from Mr. Tom Stewart. On the way back, the horse played out so we had to unhook the horse (4 mi. from home), and Dad had to leave me sitting on a sack of grain while he took the mare home. It was dark and the coyotes were howling. Mr. Hornett (Dad) in the meantime got the horse home, took off the harness and put it on a yearling heifer and lead her back and hooked her on the sled. It was a wild ride, but better than being alone listening to those coyotes.



Leonard Hornett riding a bull in 1907.

The Hornetts travelled to Vancouver by train in December, 1905. This was their first holiday in 15 years.

There were four children born to Mr. and Mrs. L. Hornett: Emily (born 1877) married Horace Meers. They resided at Condor until their passing. They had 8 children: Ted, Stewart, Ray, Teresa, Milly, Rosie, May and Alberta.

Leonard (born in 1880) married Emily Beatrice Andrews of Vancouver. They had 3 children: Beatrice, Doris and Leonard.

Lotty (born in 1881) married Gordon Healy — see Healy story.

Lily (born in 1887) married Wm. Pixley) see Pixley story.

Mr. Leonard Hornett Sr. was elected to the school board in Hill End for four terms. The school was built about 1894 and the first teacher was Miss Walker just over from Scotland.

Mrs. Hornett died July 14, 1931 and is interred at Horn Hill Cemetery.

Mr. Hornett died Jan. 1, 1944 and is interred at Forest Lawn, Vancouver.

Leonard Jr. died July 22, 1957 and Emily (Meers) died in 1951 in Red Deer.

A letter written by Leonard Hornett to Frank Mott — Dec. 1891

"We came a long way around Lake Superior. It seemed as if we were clinging to the sides of rocks and now and then going over trestle bridges. Some of the most temporary things I ever saw., and enough to make one feel queer. All around the Great Lakes the roads looked dangerous. Then we came to Port Arthur on the lake and then we did not see much wooded land for 100 miles or so. After that we came into open country up to the head town of the Great North west — Winnipeg. A very pretty place at the beginning of the Great Prairies and near 900 miles through the prairies to the next largest town, Calgary. Calgary is 600 miles from British Columbia on the main line and at Calgary, there is a branch of the line running north and south. The north has about 200 miles of tracks laid and a train runs up and down twice a week. The line south has 150 miles laid. No train has run yet. Two large rivers meet at Calgary. It is also 40 miles from the Rocky Mountains. Some of which are 16,000 feet high and always covered with snow. We can see them beautifully from Calgary. There are a lot of deer, goats and wild sheep killed in the mountains. They swarm with game in fact there is any amount of it and Mr. Croxford and myself never had so much sport shooting before. I had some bear to eat the other day. It tasted something between beef and pork. I don't care for it much. We saw three wolves but did not get near them. The beef in Calgary was beautifully fat, as fat as any that came into the Thame and they have nothing but grass. The grass on the prairies is very fattening and in some places, it is five feet high. On the Prairies where it is very open, one can see over 100 miles when the grass isn't too high.

It is in these great prairies that the Government is giving 160 acres of land. The price you pay on entering is 2 pounds and it becomes yours forever — no rates no tithes and I say no more land lords for me. Mr. Croxford has taken his 160 acres seventy five miles north from Calgary on the north line, 2 miles from Poplar Grove Station and he has also bought a building lot at the station. My 160 acres is 3 1/4 miles from the station and on the Red Deer River and I have also got a building lot at the station and we have got an amount of wood for building and firing and the lakes are full of fish, geese and ducks. It is a fine country for raising cattle and horses. I have bought 2 mares in foal and a colt six months old and 1 cow and calf. Good horses are twenty to thirty pounds, cows 8 pounds to 10 pounds and they don't

cost anything to raise. I can find out how well they pay. One man can keep hundreds as they can go over any amount of Prairie. You are not obliged to keep them on your 160 acres. What you have to do is to mind they do not get away with other large herds. What I have to say is that it is a beautiful and wonderful country and worth all the money it cost to come and see it. The weather is something splendid so clear and dry. My wife and children say that they don't want to come and live in England again. There is in this country such a chance for a man that is willing to work, that England cannot offer. Of course this is a new country and what is now going on is railway building, home building, and farming. They have just begun to build a large slaughter house and tinned meat packing plant at Calgary. The buildings are to cover 20 acres. The streets and houses are lighted up with electric light. The little house I have is lighted with it. We have a train in from the east every night and people keep coming. Almost all in Calgary are English people and lots of them know Tames well. One was Mr. Fields from Thame. Laboring mens' wages are 5 shillings and six shillings a day. Brick layers 18 to 20 shillings a day. Domestic servants 5 to 6 pounds per month with board. To go out washing for a day 6 shillings and 3 pence for a woman. Calgary is very much put out for servants and I tell you women are short here. My wife goes out for 25 shillings a week with food. We shall stop in Calgary until March and then go up to our farm. We also have a church, a chapel, Salvation Army and a splendid school. With all my love to you"

(signed) Leonard Hornett

* Leonard Hornett is Dick Pixleys' grandfather.

SAM HORNETT by Dick Pixley

Sam Hornett married Annie Belton in 1881, in London, England. They had six children, three of them being born in England and the other three in Canada.

When he lived in England he was a track layer for the Railway.

They came to Canada in 1892 and settled in the Pine Lake district. He was an exceptionally big



Winter work bee: Joe Kirkham, John Thurston, and Sam Hornett around 1912.

strong man. In Canada he was a mail man and used to haul cream and go around to the neighbors sawing wood — as well as farming.

He had one son killed in World War 1. Another son was killed in a threshing machine accident. There is one daughter, Minnie, living in Calgary.

Sam Hornett died at the home of Mr. & Mrs. William Pixley, Feb. 11, 1920 during the time when the Spanish Influenza epidemic was so prevalent.

HOVEY FAMILY by Donald Hovey, Helen Thompson & Hazel Woledge

The first member of the family to arrive in Innisfail, Alta, was our Uncle William Hovey some time prior to 1908. The next to come was Father, who was born in Michigan, January 1, 1865 and our Mother, who was born February 28 in Missouri, and their seven children: Roy, Carl, Don, Frank, Winnie, Hazel and Helen — immigrants from the State of Michigan, U.S.A.

We travelled in a Colonist car to Calgary and on to Innisfail. There our Uncle met us taking us to his restaurant that he was operating on the main street. We later found a house in town that we could stay in while our Father was looking for a farm that was for sale. He bought one six miles east of Innisfail in the Aberdeen District, moving the family lock, stock and barrel in Sept. 1908.

There were lots of ducks, wild prairie chickens and rabbits around in those days. No hunting regulations, so the boys were pretty good at keeping some form of meat on the table. But, we did not have any luxuries in those days — plain living it was. I remember our Father coming home with a wagon load of potatoes and other vegetables getting ready for winter, purchased from William Champ.

Our nearest neighbors we remember were the John Durhams, the Center families — William and Erastus, Malcolms, Tams, Waites, Lalors and Camerons.

Our elder brother had now returned to the U.S.A. Our Father passed away August 1, 1913. Mother carried on at the farm with the help of the boys and girls. In 1916 Carl enlisted for overseas in the 187 Battalion C.E.F. followed by brother Don in 1917. At this time the elder brother returned from the U.S.A. with his wife and family to manage the farm for our Mother. This he did until the return of his two brothers in 1919, he returning to the U.S.A. in 1920 and Carl continuing to farm the home place for



Ed Hovey Family 1908. L. to R., back row: Carl, Norah, Roy, Art Washburn, Winnie and Don; front row: Helen, Ed Hovey, Frank, Mrs. Hovey, Hazel.

Mother until he married and moved to a farm of his own.

Our Mother passed away in the old Innisfail Hospital March, 1923 and is buried along side our Father's grave.

One thing we remember very clearly was the farm home being destroyed by fire in February, 1916. We lost practically everything except the clothes on our backs and in mid-winter something to remember.

The kindly neighbors, Mr. and Mrs. E.H. Center took us into their home until we could find a place to live. Early in 1916 a building bee was put on by the neighbors to erect a new house under the supervision of William McGhee. That home is now lived in by; Mr. and Mrs. Percy Hunt. We attended the Aberdeen School, our teachers being Miss Fry, Mr. Burns and Lucy Martin.

Things we remember — hailstorms, frost, poor crops, very little money which was a scarce item in those days.

Early families we remember: Centers (2 families) Malcolms, Scarfes, Holdens, Moffats, Biltons, Lalors, Camerons and Tams.

Roy and Carl both passed away some years ago in the State of California. Frank passed away in the State of Michigan, also sister Nora, sister Winnie in Elnora, Alberta.

S.E. HOWARD by Mrs. V. Green & Walter Howard

Mr. Ed Howard came to Innisfail in the summer of 1893. His brother had come some time earlier and Ed stayed to assist in the haying. He returned to his home at Perth, Ontario and returned here with his wife Esther Ann (nee Howard), children Will, Ethel and Chester as well as two sisters and his father. (William Henry Howard). They spent their first winter on the Content place south of Innisfail (then known as Poplar Grove).

He filed on a homestead southeast of Innisfail where he built a log house. This was at Lone Pine a two day drive with horses from town. Before he and his family got moved into the house it was destroyed by a prairie fire. He got another set of logs ready, but before he could get them into a house, they too were burned up. So — he left there and filed on a



Log house on Hovey farm when they bought it in 1908.

homestead in the Aberdeen district. After proving up on this farm he moved to the Geordie Powers farm (later known as the Fogelvik farm). This was about 1896. It was shortly after that he moved his family to his fathers' place and remained there until the death of his father in 1922. Two more children were born here: Vera (1898), Walter (1901).

S.E. (Ed) Howard married Esther Ann Howard in Perth Ontario in Oct. 1885. His occupation before coming west was farming — but only on 40 acres. So with the possibility of 160 acres at the end of the journey west for \$10. and three years work, he came by train to Innisfail. He brought a few settlers effects with him.

His early neighbors were the Bill Champs, Jim Laydens, Browns, Centers, Macleods, Durhams and others. He was among the pioneer thresherman owning and operating one of the first steam outfits. He did a lot of custom threshing. As time went on, he acquired more land. He was on the Methodist Church board and when the first Methodist church was destroyed by fire, he was one who worked to get a new church built. He was a life long member of the Orange Lodge.



Mr. and Mrs. S. E. Howard.

He bought his first car in 1918 from John Dobson. It was a Maxwell. Some who were on the early threshing crews were Jim Fordyce (ran the engine for 9 years and Dick Burdeken.

Children Born to Mr. & Mrs. S.E. Howard were: William Howard who married Mary Reeves in 1912. (William died in 1951, Mary in 1969) — They had 5 sons. Ethel married Vic Green in 1917 and they had 3 children — they both reside in Innisfail. Chester who enlisted in the Canadian Army in W.W.I. He married Eileen Anderson in 1941 and have one daughter. Ches passed away in 1967 and is buried in the Field of Honor in the Innisfail, Cemetery. Vera born in Innisfail (Mrs. Roy Greer) and she resides at Yakima, Wash. Walter born in Innisfail and married Daisy Warner in 1930. They have a son and daughter. Daisy passed away in 1966 and was buried

in the Innisfail Cemetery. Walter still resides in Innisfail.

S.E. (Ed) Howard was born in Ontario in 1862 and died at Innisfail in 1922. His wife Esther passed away in 1945 and she is buried beside her husband in the Innisfail Cemetery.

The children attended school in the Innisfail brick school. Ethel, Will & Chester started school at the Murray Hotel. Walter recalls that Mrs. Nan Hodge was the best of teachers, although he didn't know it at the time. Walter attended school with Myrtle and Charlie Champ, Ralph Cooke and Art & Sid Jensen. The early ones he remembers in the town of Innisfail were Doc Lauder, G.W. West, McDermott, Fawdrey, J.T. Rogers, J.R. Moore and George Bryan. As neighbors there were Noble Potter and Bob Shanks and then the Bowes who came in 1906.

THE BILL HOWARD STORY by the Howard Family

William Henry Howard was born November 5, 1887, in Blanchard, Perth County, Ontario. He came west with his parents, Samuel Edward (Ned) and Esther Howard, his brothers, Ches and Walter, and sisters Ethel (Mrs. Vic Green of Innisfail) and Vera, (Mrs. Greer of Yakima). The Howards settled in the Innisfail district in the early 1890's.

As a young man, Bill Howard worked for district farmers; he also transported freight from the C.P.R. line through Innisfail, to Elnora and Trochu, with the round trip across the prairies taking a full week. In 1910 he hauled bricks from the Innisfail brick yard to Trochu for the building of the Trochu hospital. The doors and windows for this structure were built in Olds, and he also hauled these to the building site.

Bill Howard acquired a quartersection of land, the home quarter, in 1905, when the previous homesteader failed to fulfil the requirements of the Homestead Act. When he batched on the homestead, Mrs. Albert Hibbert recalls that he used to get bread at the Jim Layden home.

On March 17, 1914, he and Mary Selena Reeves were united in marriage by the Rev. R. Finlay, in Innisfail. Mary Reeves had been born in Garriston, South Dakota, on November 5, 1893, and had travelled to the Canadian west in 1899 with her mother who came to be with her brothers, Tom and Teeman Thompson. Home for the newlyweds was the one-room house on the homestead NW32-34-25-4 southeast of Innisfail. Mary Howard had worked as a housekeeper before her marriage and brought a knowledge of making ends meet into her new home. Not much land was under cultivation those first few years, and income was not plentiful.

Their home was on a main route from west to east and often provided a stopping place for travellers, who were assured of a hospitable welcome and a hearty meal. Their home was also home to various members of either family throughout the years, as younger brothers and sisters, or grandparents shared the home with the Howard's own growing family. Tom Walton remembers Bill telling him that one night twenty-one people slept in that one room.

Edward, the eldest of Bill and Mary's five boys, was born in 1915; Henry in 1916; Bordon in 1922; Roy in 1923 and John in 1926.

The house was built onto about 1918. Johnny Cox helped with the construction. The Milnerton Women's Institute provided an outing for the women at least once a month — Mary became a member of the Institute about 1918. Trips to town (Innisfail) in the early years, by team and wagon, were a matter of one day to go, a second to return. A load of grain was taken in, sold, and the money was spent on supplies. Trading was done at G.W. West's store; this tradition was followed by the sons and their families until West's closed in 1968. This trip wasn't made many times a year — Mary went to town very rarely, with Bill bringing groceries with his loads of freight. Trips to town for the entire family became a little more frequent after Bill purchased his first car, a 1917 Model T Ford in 1918.

Home treatment of illnesses was the order of the day, because of the distance to the doctor. When the illness proved greater than the home remedy, the patient was either taken to town, or the doctor was summoned from Innisfail. Doctor Dorsey was the doctor remembered by the family — Gordon recalls the time he came out when John was about to put in an appearance; Doctor Dorsey put his waiting time to good use by going hunting for sharp-tailed grouse. On the fly leaf of an old recipe book published in 1899, is a recipe with which Mother Howard cured a bad case of eczema:

1 teaspoon of sulphur, 1 teaspoon of oil of tar, 1 teaspoon of glycerine, 10 drops carbolic acid. Mix well.

The boys all attended Mt. Pleasant school which was located one-half mile west and two miles north of the home quarter. Bill Howard served on the board of Mt. Pleasant school for twenty years. Gordon laughingly remembers sleeping behind the stove most of his first year at school; he had to begin when he was five, as another name had to be on the register or the school would be closed.

Before 1923, Bill Howard had a threshing machine driven by a one-cylinder stationary engine. The threshing machine was pulled from one location to another by several horses. Ed remembers hearing of threshing being done throughout the winter of 1918.



Threshing Crew 1938: C. Kendrick, Gordon Howard, salesman from Olds, Ed Howard, Jack Green, Leo Randall, Bill Howard, Henry Howard, "Slim", "Frenchy", Dick Horridge, "Mink" Dancy, unknown.

Bundles were stacked and threshed from the stack. In 1923, he bought a 22" Goodeson thresher, powered by a 10-20 Titan tractor which was operated by Charlie Kendrick. These outfits threshed throughout a large radius, going east almost as far as Huxley, south several miles to include the farm of Jimmy Marshall, the Negro farmer; and west to include the Billy Nolan farm.

In the early days, nearly every quarter of land had buildings, as compared to now when the average acreage per farmer in this area is two sections. Many of the early farmers including Bill Howard, cut and stacked hay on the open grassland areas. This hay was hauled and sold in the winters to Pat Burn's feedlots which were located on the quarter where Henry Howard lives now, and one west of Norman Layden's where springs offered ample water supply.

The 1930's brought hard times to all. Bill Howard and his sons drove 100 head of cows and calves to Innisfail receiving one thousand dollars for the lot. Again the Howard's home became a refuge to family and friends who needed a job, a home, or just a place to work. George Warren made good use of the blacksmith shop and operated from there for some time. Another enterprise of the late 30's and 40's was a lumber camp, two miles north of Phyllis Lake, north-west of Ricinus. Spruce and pine were logged, sawed, and hauled to Caroline for planing. Most of the lumber was used for buildings on the home place, and on Ed's, but some was sold.

During this period, Bill Howard served several years on the council of M.D. of Arthur. In the 1940's, the family began to marry and start families of their own; Ed married Betty Taylor of the Gordon district in 1939; they have two daughters, Norma (Mrs. Tex Yerex), and Vera, (Mrs. Alvin Darrah), and one son Larry. Roy married Cicely Ellis of the Westlynn district in 1943; they have one son Allen, who married Linda Gerrard. Henry enlisted in 1943 and served overseas with the Fort Garry Horse. He married Doreen Hepburn in 1946, following his discharge from the army. Doreen was born and grew up in the Acadia district west of Huxley. They have no children. Gordon, married Muriel Wark, who came from Carstairs to teach at Howell's Lake School in 1946. They were married in 1948 and have four children; Lorne, Bill, Marylou and Kathy. John married Kay Gillespie from Foremost in 1962. They have five children; Robert, who married Wendy Warke, Esther, (Mrs. Dennis Stedman), Eleanor, Tyron and William. There are a total of thirteen grandchildren and to date there are five great-grandchildren.

Mother and Dad Howard retired to Innisfail in the fall of 1950. Dad did not live long to enjoy his retirement as he passed away on Oct. 24, 1951, at the age of 64 years. Mother passed away on June 15, 1969, at the age of 76. Both are buried in the Innisfail cemetery. They had worked hard, been good neighbors, and will be remembered long by their family and others who knew them.

Ed, Henry and Gordon farm within a four mile radius of the home place, which is farmed by John. Roy owns land in the same area, but has a trucking business at Coleman, where he and Cicely now live.

Two anecdotes in a lighter vein serve to conclude this story of the Bill Howard family — both concern that modern invention, the automobile. When Bill bought his first car, he had been used to driving horses, of course. Imagine his frustration, when driving up to a gate he hollered “Whoa” and the fool thing didn’t stop. His second car was a 1927 Buick. Proud of his new vehicle, he, Mary, and the younger boys were on their way over to the Moore’s to show off the new car. He hit a slippery spot on the road and the new car and its passengers landed in the slough just east of where Ed Howard now lives.

MR. & MRS. JOE HOWSE by Orville Howse

Joe Howse, born in North Bank, Alberta in 1874, married Alice Smith (born 1885) from Longview, Alberta in 1903. He ranched; left Hardisty in 1921 to work at Vermillion and Stettler and also at Blackfoot crossing; then in 1924, because there was work available, he, his wife and ten children and father-in-law, O.H.Smith, came to Innisfail. They did farm work and cut brush around Innisfail; their first neighbor was Max Sucee. Joe Howse and his boys slept in a tent all winter while working for Joe Murgatroyd; they cleared 110 acres in one winter, all by axe.

Orville Hawkins Smith went west from Missouri just after the Civil War and was a 20-mule team skinner freighting between Salt Lake City and the mining camps in Montana. He came to Alberta in 1876 and in 1877 in partnership with Lafayette French started a trading post at Blackfoot Crossing. It was there he met and married Alice’s mother, Sara Wolfchild, a Blackfoot Indian related to Black Eagle. They ranched in the High River country for a while and then moved to Hardisty. His wife died in 1901 and was buried at Hobbema. O.H.Smith lived with his children for many years, then returned to Hardisty where he died in 1931.

Joseph Howse was a nephew of Sam Livingston who came to Alberta in the late 1860’s and farmed where the Chinook race track was for many years.

Alice and Joe’s children:

Joseph (dec. July 1, 1963) m. Eva Fiddler; Pearl m. Wilfred Shanks (dec.); Orville m. Annabell Hudson; Phil m. Susan Parker; Ben m. Florence Elliott (dec.); Grace m. Albert Skaley (dec.); George (dec. July 1, 1967) m. Alice Stolley; Sidney; Leo m. Patricia Day; Doris m. Dennis Shelvey; Joseph Carl Howse died Jan. 28, 1963 and his wife Alice Oct. 20, 1961. All live, or were buried, in Calgary.

BENJAMIN ARTHUR HUCKELL by Mrs. Jessie Taylor

B.A. Huckell was the editor of the “Innisfail Province” for twenty-six years. He was born June 3, 1874. His father Thomas and Uncle John left England in the early 1840’s. They had a hotel and bought land in Ottawa and evidently had some money. Some years later, Ben’s father left Ottawa for

the West. They settled in Rapid City because it was understood that the C.P.R. would be going through there; but the railway went further north and west of Winnipeg, so they left Rapid City and settled in Carberry.

Ben’s father had the newspaper, Post office and hotel in Carberry. Later Ben was sent to school to the Ottawa Boys’ Private School and lived with his uncle John. Ben finished his schooling at the University of Manitoba. On his return to Carberry he helped his father in the hotel and newspaper. His father died in the early 1900’s. Ben sold the hotel and took over the newspaper. Ben was married to Isobel Graham of Lakefield, Ontario in June, 1894. He managed the newspaper until 1910.

Ben was offered the position of Editor for the magazine section of the country newspaper by the Toronto Type Foundry Publishers. Ben accepted as he felt this was an opportunity to give his family university education. He sold his business and home and moved to Regina. In 1912, he was transferred to Calgary by the Toronto Type Foundry as Editor there.



Ben Huckell

The Real Estate bug bit him about the middle of 1914 and he thought he could make his million in less time and with less work. He sold his home and moved to Edmonton and went into business with a firm there. The bubble burst and he lost everything.

It was a real struggle for some years, with the first world war and school fees. Graham, his eldest son, returned from overseas and then there were the university expenses to handle. Graham graduated in 1924 in medicine. Ben felt his obligations to his family were nearly over and he could do what he always wanted to do — be “Editor” of a country newspaper.

He bought the Innisfail Province from Mr. Dillingham. In those days the office and shop were on the Main Street. It was sometime later he bought the property where the Province is now situated. It was in the new location that he built an up-to-date office and shop. He had the reputation of the cleanest printing shop in the Province of Alberta. He was honored

some years later by the Presentation of a plaque by the Canadian Newspaper Organization for the best weekly in Canada.

John, Ben's youngest son, left the bank and came to Innisfail to assist his father at the newspaper work in 1926. John took ill and was hospitalized for several years. He returned to Innisfail and continued in the newspaper work. John married Edith Neill, who was head operator of the Telephone Company in Innisfail.

Another honor came to Ben Huckell when he was invited to meet King George and Queen Elizabeth on their Canadian Tour in 1938. The reception for this occasion was held at the Alberta Parliament Buildings with other prominent Professional and business men.

A reward to Ben and Bell Huckell for any sacrifice they made for their family was the honor given their son Dr. Graham Huckell by the presentation in London, England, of a medal for the medical service in Scotland during the second World War.

After the death of Ben Huckell, his son John took over the editorship and sold it to the present owner "Hap" Clarke. While John and Edith were holidaying in Banff, John took a heart attack and died in Calgary, where he and Edith were residing at the time.

I will always remember our first visit to our parents' home in Innisfail. At that time, the electric lights were turned off at midnight and John and I were met about 2:30 a.m. by Dad carrying a coal oil lantern. We remember him giving us a flashlight and we followed him down the road hoping we wouldn't break a leg to get to our home in the east side of town. Mother was there with the coal stove burning brightly and hot coffee and lots of love. We were greeted by many callers the next day and everyone seemed so happy to have us in Innisfail making us feel so welcome and as if we, too, belonged. The love and good wishes of the people of Innisfail to us will never be forgotten. There is nothing like a small town for "honest affection". Jack Taylor and I were married November 3, 1927 in the Anglican Church in Innisfail by the Rev. John Orton.

Special friends were Mr. & Mrs. Smith, Mr. & Mrs. Fred Bye, Mr. & Mrs. Norman Badcock, Mr. & Mrs. Calder and Dr. & Mrs. Wagner.

Some time later, Dad bought the property across the road from Dr. Wagners' home and built the house and improved the property. Whenever we are in Innisfail we always go to see the old home with so many memories.

MR. & MRS. TOM HUDSON by Mrs. Annabell Howse

Tom Hudson was born in Toronto, Ontario in 1887. He heard of job opportunities in the west and came to Three Hills, Alberta where he homesteaded and did draying. On October 19, 1914 he married Rocky Marion Peterson (from west of Bowden) at Three Hills. In 1919 he, his wife, and three children came to Innisfail where Tom carried on a draying

business and was a teamster for the Volunteer Fire Department.

One time he was crossing Dodd's Lake in the early spring with a load of gravel and the wagon fell through the ice. Bob Cameron and Orville Howse retrieved the wagon and Mr. Hudson from the lake. The Hudson's nearest neighbor was Mrs. Mary St. Denis. Their children attended the Innisfail school with Ruby Kelly, Vivian Sucee, Olive Benton; teachers were Mrs. Nancy Hodge, Miss Dorothy Rawlinson; Mr. Robert Warren was teaching at that time.

I can remember walking to Buffalo Creek to swim and in winter skating on Dodd's lake and also sleighriding down the school hill. I remember Mr. & Mrs. Bill Forester (well driller), Tom Dougherty (section foreman), Bill Daines (blacksmith), H. J. Percy (baker) and Dave Arnell (auctioneer).

Tom Hudson died Aug. 28, 1962 predeceased by his wife, Rocky on Oct. 9, 1942; both are buried in Innisfail Cemetery.

Children: Annabell — m. Orville Howse Sept. 17, 1932, live in Calgary; James C. — bachelor; Russell — killed in action in France; Calgary Highlanders July 19, 1944. Margaret — m. Ken Caza, Burnaby, B.C.; Agnes M. — m. Arnie Lipisto, Terrace, B.C.; Louis — bachelor, Red Deer; Ernie — m. Evelyn McGovern, Red Deer; Warren — dec. Dec. 15, 1953, m. Georgina Cirtis.

ERNEST J. HUGHES by Walter T. Hughes

Dad was born in Ireland December 27, 1880. His father was killed in an accident in a salt mine in Ireland. In 1884, his mother, twin brother and two sisters, Maude and Sadie; his aunt and cousin, decided to come over to Canada. The two women became ill with the Black Fever. Ernie's mother died the day before they docked in Canada and was buried at sea; his aunt died the day after they arrived. He and his twin brother, two sisters, and cousin, were put in an orphanage and later placed with foster parents. Dad went to school only one winter in Ontario but took up to the 6th Book, that is, the same as Grade 6 here. After that, he had to work hard, like a man, and didn't have an easy time being knocked about from one foster parent to another.

He was in the Boer War, serving in the "C" Special Service Battery of the Royal Canadian Artillery in South Africa from Jan. 1, 1900 to Jan. 13, 1901. He received a medal of honor from Queen Victoria. She pinned it on him herself.

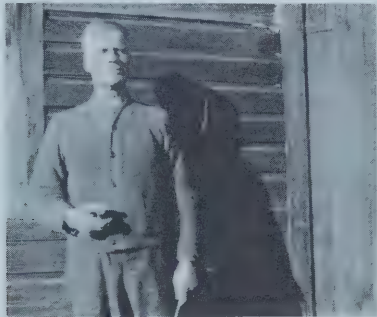
After he came back from South Africa, he worked for Mr. A. B. Cunningham, who had a big estate in Kingston, Ontario. He was coachman; took care of the stables and the gardens (apples had to be picked and packed in barrels and put in storage in the basement for winter use); and he helped in the house as a butler. He married Annie Lambert Feb. 12, 1912 in Kingston while he was working for Mr. Cunningham.

During WWI, he worked as a soldier in the Canadian Expeditionary Force at the batteries in Kingston where they made bullets and shells. While

there, he got a little piece of steel in his left eye which affected his vision a bit. Then he worked as an orderly in the Queen's Military Hospital, Kingston, from April 1918 to August 1919.

Dad came out to Alberta from Ontario in the fall of 1919 on a special harvest excursion and found work harvesting for Bob Potter, Mr. Lyman Melrose, and Mr. Stacy of Innisfail. Dad decided he wanted to bring up his family out here as he figured it was a healthy place (he had lost four children back in Ontario).

There were lots of opportunities for all. Mr. Stacy was a real estate agent and he had some connection with Mr. Cunningham. Mr. Cunningham loaned my dad money to buy the farm four and a half miles north of Innisfail (Sec. 17-36-28-4). It was solid bush then and he had to work hard to clear it so he would have farming land. The brush had to be cut down by man-power with just an axe. Horses pulled out big stumps and then roots had to be picked. Bob Potter and Frank F. Malcom helped dad build his house. In the spring of 1920 Mother, Agnes (6 yrs.), Elizabeth (5 yrs.), and Pearl (6 mos.) came to Innisfail. Lillian was born here June 23, 1922. Mrs. Wm. Daines looked after my mother at home. I (Walter) was born May 17, 1924 — the year the Red Deer River bridge was built. Mrs. Mary Malcolm was mid-wife to my mother then.



Ernie Hughes

Dad obtained food by hunting (partridge were plentiful in those days. He would get a deer once in a while) and go fishing. He trapped and hunted coyotes and sold their hides; cut down trees and cut it up into wood to sell in town. There were lots of berries to be picked and canned by the gallons. In summer we canned meat so it would keep. We sold butter at 14c lb. and eggs at 5c doz. so we could buy a few groceries. We didn't have luxuries, but we never went hungry. Mr. & Mrs. Frank West were very good to us — lots of times when we didn't have much, they saw to it that we all had something to wear. Mr. Tedeschini (Vince's dad) would fix our shoes while we waited. Dad had his crops hauled out three years in succession so he didn't have much to go on.

For years we had to haul water for washing, drinking and cooking, and take the horses and other livestock to a slough to drink, morning, noon and night. I had a well drilled in 1952, drilling over 200 feet for such a little water.

First neighbors were: Bob Potter, Morris family, F. F. Malcolm, Whitesides, H. Marshall, Kennings, Fred Munro, Joe Potter, Schei's, Louis Bioletti. For recreation our dad and mother used to play ball, horse shoes, and card games with us when we were children. Our friends and neighbors would all gather at our place, and we had good times. Some of the old-timers of Innisfail that we remember are Mrs. Pearse, Murgatroyd Bros., Anne and Jane Dea, John Dodd's, Ed Dodd's, Mrs. Stiles, Perrott family, and Joe Delong.

My Mother passed away Feb. 14, 1933 in childbirth. Dad died Mar 11, 1959, aged 79 and still farming.

Children:

Margaret, Eileen, Ernest, Kathleen (twin to Elizabeth) all died as children in Kingston. Agnes married Andrew M. Plested 7 children farms at Lacombe. Elizabeth married Roy J. Potter They farmed at Big Bend for 24 years and have been retired in Innisfail the last 11 years. Two children. Pearl married Allan Plested They live in Olds; 7 children. Lillian married Percy Brooks They live in Tabor; 4 children. Walter lives on the home farm in the Westholm district (he took it over in 1944). We all attended Westholm school which is now used as a community centre.

PERCY W. HUNT by Maggie Hunt

Percy was born at Kaganvong, Manitoulin Island, Ontario in January 1886. He came to Lethbridge, Alberta in 1906; then on to Iron Springs to a homestead. In May of 1912 he married Maggie Marie Gloer in Lethbridge. Maggie was born at Ansley, Nebraska in Nov. 1894. She had also lived in South Dakota and Montana; later moving with her parents to Lethbridge in 1905 and on to Iron Springs to her father's homestead in March, 1906.

Just before his marriage, Percy had travelled through the Innisfail district and it had appealed to him. In September 1919, the Hunts left their 1/2 section farm at Picture Butte where Percy also ran a country store and was postmaster, and came to Innisfail along with the Robert Fraser family (who later moved to the coast). They travelled for a week in a wagon with a four horse team bringing some essential belongings with them. The balance of their furniture, live-stock, etc. was shipped up by C.P.R. They settled on a farm four miles south east of Innisfail. When their house and contents were destroyed by fire two months after their arrival, Percy took over the chop and feed mill in town for the next 2 1/2 years. Then they moved back to the farm. Besides farming, they also milked cows, raised pigs, chickens, and turkeys, which helped to care for the family even in the depression years.

Their first neighbors were the John Carrs, the Frys, the Giolmas, Howards and Walkers.

The 1919-20 winter was one of the worst winters they ever experienced. Coming from southern Alberta where the chinook winds took the snow off and bare ground could be seen once in a while, they found here the snow came in October and stayed well

on into May. Firewood was hauled up from the bush in May using the bob sleighs and horses!

As they were four miles from the school, they sold their first farm in 1927 and moved to the Aberdeen district where they are now retired.

Children: Ethel Ada born in 1914 passed away in 1935; Amy Bertha, born in 1923, married Troy Allen Dulaney in 1943. Troy passed away in 1970; Amy lives in Innisfail.

ROBERT JOHN HUNTLY by Connie Huntly

Robert J. Huntly was born March 19, 1890 in Pewsey Wiltshire, England. His father and mother owned a large dairy farm. On the passing of his father Bob came out to Canada in 1910. For four years he worked for Mr. Ewen Simpson. In March 1915 he enlisted with his brother George in the 56 Battalion. Upon reaching England they both transferred to the 4th Division of the 50th. He served all through the war as a scout. He got the military Medal for bravery in the field. (mending communication wires to headquarters under heavy fire and on Vimy Ridge). His brother was killed at Vimy Ridge on April 9th, 1917.

Once Bob and five others were buried and Bob dug himself out and went for help and all of them got out safely. The horrors of war all came back to him in the later part of his life.

He returned to Canada in July 1919. In 1925 he went into partnership with H.E. Shenfield. He and I (Constance) were married and have lived on the farm ever since. We have one son Robert John who now owns the farm, Betty (Mrs. Morison), Marion (Mrs. Bill Kennedy) May (Mrs. Ralph Wagers) and 8 grandchildren.

Bob, Betty Marion and May all attended school at Little Red Deer riding the 3 1/2 miles to school every day. Marion and May also attended school in Innisfail.

When Bob was 6 1/2 and Betty 5, they got one of the two yr. old colts in the barn and put the harness on it. No one knew how they managed it, but I would imagine it took a lot of pushing and pulling. Another time they chased a steer into the barn. They hung a saddle all done up in the doorway and chased the steer out. Much to the kids enjoyment, it left the barn with the saddle on its' back. Their Dad had quite a time getting the saddle off. Betty broke her arm once riding a steer, Marion always had to ride the colts about half an hour after they had been halter broken, May tried to ride a pig once, but it didn't last too long as she was riding it backwards. It really ran between her legs and she ended up on its back.

They all learned to skate on the creek that ran right past the house. Bob and the Tom Scarlett family, spent many happy hours playing hockey on the creek. In the summer they played ball.

Bob's health started to fail in 1942 but he always enjoyed playing the piano. The children would gather too around the piano listening to him play and we would all sing. He loved to shoot and when went hunting ducks in the fall he would carry both the shot gun and rifle so he could change from one to the

other. He would often come home with ducks hanging the length of his gun.

March 1971 we took Bob to the Col. Belcher hospital. He passed away Jan. 10, 1972.

Lane Moore spent about four years with us after the passing of his mother. Lane was the youngest son of Harold Moore. He will always seem one of our family.

We are all so proud of the achievements of our grandchildren in their figure skating.

THE HUSBAND STORY by Henry Husband

George Husband was the first of our family to come to Canada. He was only twelve years old at the time. He came because of the Curtices being here. Mrs. Curtice was his aunt. George joined the army in W.W.I and went overseas.

Tom Husband came to Canada and rented land from Mr. Sandborne in the Cottonwood district. Harry arrived in 1923 and farmed with Tom. All the Husband family came from Cornwall, England and had been raised on farms there.

Harry and George married sisters. Ivy Elaine Kerslake married Harry and Ellen (Nellie) married George.



Three generations: baby Henry, Harry and Ivy, and Grandpa Husband.



Grandpa Husband sawing wood

To add to their income they ground wheat for porridge and sold wood to Mr. H.J. Percy for flour. But, with the shortage of money they were able to buy their farm paying about \$10. an acre. All the Husbands lived and farmed in the Cotton wood district.

Harry and Ivy Husband had four children: Henry who married Mary McKenzie-Greive. (They reside in Red Deer); Gladys married Harold Duch, Alfred married Betty Smolders, and Ray married Shirley Hilms.

George and Nellie Husband had a family of three: David, married with one son; Wilfred married with four children and is a missionary in Africa at present; and Mary who is married with two children.

Tom Husband is deceased.

Harry and Ivy now live in Canyon B.C. while George and Nellie reside on their farm.

TED HUTTON by Frank West

Ted Hutton and his wife will be remembered by many for their tailoring business that was conducted in Innisfail for a long time.

He was a native of Bristol, England and had apprenticed with Messrs. Randall and Wall, the celebrated military and civic tailors of London and Bristol.

Mr. Hutton came to Innisfail in 1911. He enlisted in the 137 Battalion and transferred to the "Fighting 10th". After the war Mr. Hutton returned to Innisfail and resumed his occupation.

Mrs. Hutton and her mother made costumes in the old country for theatricals. Mrs. Hutton's parents, Mr. & Mrs. Cummings, lived where Alf Chute now lives in the Aberdeen district. They are both buried in the Innisfail Cemetery.

Mr. & Mrs. Ted Hutton had two children Eddie and Esme. The daughter was quite a dancer taking lessons from Mrs. Dick Percy (Betty Marchant).

THE STORY OF THE ICELANDERS by Bjorn Thorlakson

In the early winter of 1888, a settlement of people who had emigrated from Iceland held a meeting; they had settled in North Dakota and wished to leave this country of extreme heat and cold climate. Their homeland was still in their hearts and they desired a land with plenty of good grass, shelter from heat and cold, and plenty of fish. At the meeting, one of their members was chosen to go to Alberta. When Sigurdur Bjornson arrived in Calgary, he met Olafur Goodman, an Icelander who had been in Calgary for ten years and had seen a lot of the land between Calgary and Edmonton. He strongly recommended the area west of (Innisfail) Poplar Grove, known as Big Bend. So it was that between 20 and 30 families and four single men began a trip from North Dakota to the promised land; a trip that seemed to have endless difficulties and disappointments. Sigurdur Bjornson strongly recommended that they buy cows and a bull at Gretna, Manitoba, because the cost of cows at Calgary would be too much. However, he forgot to account for the cost of two railroad cars from Gretna to Calgary and some of the people had to be helped

to pay their share of the cost. Unfortunately, they discovered that cows would have cost far less in Calgary than at Gretna, to say nothing of the extra cost of shipping them. Mr. Olafur Goodman (he changed his name to Oliver), to his great credit gave the Icelanders not only sound advice, but found places in Calgary for them to stay, and work, so they could eat.

At that time, the CPR had mapped the route for a railroad from Calgary to Edmonton and officials for the railroad strongly advised the settlers to go north to the Big Bend area, to build their houses and other shelters for livestock, because the railroad would go through there. Mr. Goodman said, "Let's be practical. You are in a new country, the majority of you have no money, the CPR are not likely to build their road in one year. My advice to you people is to stay in Calgary for at least a year and then go north. There are mainly two problems you must overcome; first, earn money; second, you must learn to speak English." Some of the families did stay in Calgary and Mr. Goodman found work for them; they earned some money and learned to speak English, and saved themselves a lot of trouble and hardship.

The families that owned cows decided to take the advice of Mr. Bjornson and go to Big Bend. Mr. Goodman loaned them tents, bought enough food to last them two weeks, and arranged with two half-breeds to take them from Calgary to the location north of the Red Deer River. It was a very wet spring, and it rained day and night all the way to the Red Deer River. They had difficulty crossing overflowing creeks along the way; on the 17th of June, 1888 when this first group of settlers arrived on the south side of the Red Deer River (about a mile upstream from where the bridge was built much later), it was in high flood. They camped there for three weeks waiting for the river to recede enough so they could cross to the promised side, and the milk from their cows helped to keep them from starving.

Their guides had followed the route that had been surveyed for the railroad from Calgary to the Red Deer River. There was a sawmill here in what became the Little Red Deer settlement, to provide enough ties for the railroad, plus lumber for building cook houses and shelter for their working crews. The settlers bought enough lumber and nails from the sawmill to build a boat to cross the river. This and many other dealings were difficult because none of these settlers spoke English. When the boat was ready, two single and one married man volunteered to try the crossing — Benidikt Bardal, who had a wife and five children; Olafur Benidiktson, and my father, Gudmundur Thorlakson. They crossed the river without too much trouble and met a man on the other side called Mr. Zates. He had a lovely team of mares, plus a large flock of sheep. He told the three men he would help them all he could, if they would help him. They crossed the river again to tell their people and then returned to Mr. Zates. This was the beginning of another adventure for the three men.

They were surprised to see all the ropes and chains Mr. Zates put into his wagon as well as tying the box very securely to the wagon. They went northwest about one mile upstream to the Medicine River, which was also overflowing its banks in many places. Mr. Zates was familiar with both rivers; he started at a certain spot, allowing for the current taking his trusted team a distance downstream before they could land at a place where the bank was low. He talked to his team from the very start; when they had reached about half way across, one of the mares got her front foot over the neck-yoke. He looked back to the men and said, "Don't worry, Jane will take us over." He immediately started talking to Jane and in due course they reached the bank. He threw one end of a rope over the other horse Lil, holding the other end of the rope, he jumped on Jane's back, next jump was far enough that the water was only up to his waist. He then told the others to do the same, one at a time. Under his exceptional preparedness and leadership, they got mares and wagon onto dry land.

They rested for an hour before skidding logs to the river. These were 60 foot pine logs that did not have any knots and were as straight as an arrow. This exceptional bluff of pine trees was located on what later became Mr. Spurgeon's homestead, who used the remaining trees for building his house, barns and corrals. He needed a lot of good corrals as he had brought a large number of horses with him. They were known all over as he clipped the tail hair straight across just below the tail bone — the story goes that the horsehair paid for his groceries. Mr. Spurgeon sold horses at high prices to the early pioneers, most of them on time at 9% interest.

A raft was fashioned from the logs the next morning. First the people were brought across the river; then the cows, and then the bull. Mr. Zates gave them all coffee and they gave him a pail of milk. Then he hitched Jane and Lil to the wagon so the women and children could all ride; the menfolks walked to their promised land. They tried to make him understand they owed him money for all his help. He shook his head and said this had been a great experience for him; then asked if the two single men would work for him and put up the hay for his sheep. Starting about July 25th, he paid them \$10 each per month until he had enough hay.

The settlers had one scythe with them; there was plenty of high grass and they managed to have enough hay to winter their cattle in a reasonably good condition.

While the cows were a serious handicap to them at times, they would have starved to death without the milk and butter from them. They were greatly disappointed with the low quality of the fish called suckers; the pike and pickerel were better, but far short of being as good as cod, which they had in Iceland. They ate the pike and pickerel, but dried the suckers for winter use. In the spring of 1889 those that had settled on Township 36-2-5 were able to file for homesteads; those on Township 37-2-5 continued to be 'squatters' until it was later surveyed. Their

biggest disappointment was that after being encouraged by the railroad to settle in this area because the railroad was surveyed to go through it, another survey was made sending it on its present location through Innisfail instead of Big Bend district. The survey had planned the railroad to go through the Little Red Deer and Big Bend districts, passing Sylvan Lake on the east side and going north to about 4 miles west of Lacombe. That route would have been far cheaper to operate than the present location through Innisfail-Red Deer.

After they had four walls and a roof over their heads, the Icelanders decided they must have a school so their children could learn English. It took close to two years before they could convince the authorities in Regina that they needed a school. The first school, Hola, was built in 1900 on the Stephanson farm and served not only as a school, but as church, general meeting place and dance hall. They next got approval for a Post Office, which was called Tindastol, and Johann Bjornson was the first postmaster. He was also mail carrier from Poplar Grove to Tindastol. He made the trip once a week, and took butter from the settlers into Innisfail to trade at the G.W. West store for groceries. Just before the turn of the century, a fairly large number of Icelanders arrived which necessitated building more schools. Tindastol and Heckla schools were built next, and in 1904 the Markerville school was built taking land from the other three school districts. In those early days the children walked to school and many, including myself, lived five miles from their school — it gave us strong feet, healthy bodies, and kept us out of mischief.

Three quarters of a mile north-west from what later became Markerville, Oli and Johnny Benedictson had a general store. About 1900, two brothers came up the Medicine River looking for gold. They climbed the bank to have lunch in the shade of some trees, and when they woke from a nap, the older one said, "Well, I have found the place where I am going to stay for the rest of my life." The younger brother said, "Well, Dan, this is perhaps the first time I agree with you 100%." The names of those two brothers were Dan and Holger Morkeberg. They found from John and Oli that there were two cheese plants in the district, but that a good creamery managed by an experienced operator was greatly needed. John called a meeting and it was arranged for Mr. Marker, the dairy commissioner, to come to the meeting and talk to the settlers. The Markerville Creamery got its start that night; shares were sold at one dollar a share to give everyone a chance to participate; some bought fifty and some bought only one. This was the real beginning of prosperity for all concerned in the district. The farmers fed the skim milk to their calves; cows were mostly dual purpose Shorthorns, giving a fair amount of rich milk and steers were good quality meat.

Dan Morkeberg managed the Creamery for many years and then his son, Carl Morkeberg took over. When he retired and the Creamery was closed down,

it had been in operation for 73 years. W.H. Jackson was Dan's butter-maker for a long time. One year Mr. Jackson took the best of the cream from all the farmers to make 56 pounds of special butter which he entered at the Toronto Royal Exhibition and won the Grand Prize for all of Canada.

In 1911, 304 prime grass fed steers were delivered to the stock yards at Innisfail and bought by Messrs. Harbison and McMillan for Pat Burns. In those days, the cattle were herded along the trails into Innisfail. My father was a teetotaler and many women of the community depended on him to bring their husbands home after the cattle drive. They would sell their cattle and head for the hotel to celebrate. Beer was only ten cents for a much bigger glass than nowadays. Mr. Thorlakson would encourage them to leave for home, but many times had to wait until almost daylight before helping the men onto their horses. The wives would have put hay in the barn for the horse and be waiting — Gudmundur would help the husband into the house and bed and be rewarded with coffee. Many times he ended the day quite coffee-logged.

Practically every farmer had sheep, but I believe John Sveinson had the largest flock. He at one time sold over two hundred lambs at the Innisfail Stock yards while the other farmers had from 25 to 100. At that time there was very little interest in hogs; and turkeys, geese, ducks and chickens were raised only for table use of each farmer. There was a steady increase in cattle and sheep production until 1923 when the Wheat Pool theory was sprung on the farmers, promising over \$2 per bushel for wheat. Many swung over to crop farming for why feed cattle and sheep when they could make more money on wheat plus have nothing to do all winter? However, the price quoted never materialized.

At one time Markerville had three General Stores plus a small hardware store; a hotel — meals and rooms, but no booze —, a livery barn, blacksmith shop, butcher shop, two churches — Lutheran and Methodist, and one large dance hall. The Markerville Brass Band not only entertained the local people, but played at Innisfail, Red Deer, Lacombe, Olds, Didsbury and Carstairs. The first band leader was Arthur Thompson, now living in Red Deer. Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Margaret Stewart are the two survivors left of the original group of Icelanders that arrived at the Red Deer River in 1888. The second band leader was Bjorn G. Bjornson who died in 1971.

My father, Gudmundur Thorlakson was born in Iceland and was an orphan. He was one of the original Icelanders to settle west of Innisfail. He married Gudbjorg Bjornson in Calgary. Their only child is Bjorn; two other children died as infants. Bjorn Thorlakson married Haldora, the foster daughter of Svien Bjornson. They had ten children: Gudbjorn — lives in Red Deer; Gudbjorg — Mrs. Thora Shanks; Gudmundur — he was drowned at Hola School; Joan — Mrs. Frank Vandaele; B.T. 'Stenie' — farming at Markerville; Dorothy — Mrs. Otto Zimmerman (died 1973); Allan — farming at

Markerville; Alice — Mrs. Heinson; Marion — Mrs. Bain; Iris — Mrs. Bill Eliuk.

THE MARKERVILLE CREAMERY by Rosa Benediktson

There were cheese factories started in the Markerville area as early as 1894, but they did not prove to be successful, so were discontinued.

In 1899 the settlers got together and decided they needed a creamery. There were 36 shareholders that formed the stock company — all Icelandic except for one Irishwoman Mrs. D. Sullivan and one Dane, Mr. D. Morkeberg. A building was erected, equipment bought, and as was the procedure at that time, the creamery was leased to the Dominion Government and they sent D. Morkeberg out as butter maker and superintendent. The creamery began operation July 12, 1899 but the company was not incorporated until Sept. 23, 1899 as The Tindastoll Butter and Cheese Association. The board of directors were S. Goodman, J. M. Johnson, Th. Gudmundson, J. Benedictson, and D. Morkeberg with S. G. Stephanson as Secretary Treasurer. These men held office for years.

The creamery flourished well down through the years, and even the first year over 100 thousand pounds of butter were produced. The government deducted 4c so it netted the farmers 17c. In 1910 the Government ceased leasing creameries, so then it handed over the creamery to the shareholders and they leased it to D. Morkeberg.

This proved to be one of the finest cooperative ventures for the community. It continued in operation for 73 years winning many awards and prizes down through the years, thanks to the fine workmanship of the Morkebergs.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON INNISFAIL CREAMERIES by Laura Scott

Between 1890 and 1894, Powell and Howard opened a butter and cheese factory at Innisfail. They operated a De Laval hollow bowl belt driven cream separator.

The Innisfail Dairy and Stock Company was incorporated in 1894. It acquired and enlarged the Powell and Howard Plant and initiated in Alberta the cream separating station method of extending its field of service to outlying district. The Company brought in a number of dairy cows which were sold to the farmers patronizing the creamery. J.A. Powell was appointed manager.

In 1897 the Dominion Government took over the creameries of Calgary, Innisfail, Red Deer, Wetaskiwin and Edmonton. They were then operated upon a co-op basis under government management.

A Dairy Conference was held at Innisfail, February 10, 1905. The complementary dinner served by the citizens of Innisfail was a huge success.

One of the first cream pasteurizers installed in Western Canada was displayed in the Innisfail Creamery at the Buttermakers Convention, April 20, 1910.

A picture of the pasteurizer appears in the August 1955 issue of the Dairy and Ice Cream Journal. Mr.

W.H. Jackson, Dr. C.P. Marker and Mr. Jas. Flan are three of the four men admiring the pasteurizer.

The above information was culled from the Alberta Dairyman's Association Coming of Age 1940 publication.

Laura R. Scott

GEORGE INGHAM by Tracy Ingham

I was born on June 29, 1889 in Salina, Kansas and raised with my two brothers on a ranch, attending school at Elko, B.C.

On May 16, 1916, I came from the city of Edmonton with my wife and daughter to open my first place of business in Innisfail. Prior to this I had always worked as a jeweller for someone else. I had purchased the business owned by Mr. McDermott, as he was going overseas.

It was a drastic change living in a town of about 800 with a few board sidewalks, muddy streets and no conveniences when my wife and I were used to streetcars, paved streets, and modern facilities.

However, the second Sunday after we arrived, we attended the Methodist Church and here we met good people who became our first real friends. I enjoyed the many times throughout the years when friends accompanied me on hunting and fishing trips, and in early years enjoyed playing in the band.

At the store I had plenty of work but few sales as there was very little merchandise to sell; I had no money to buy more and had yet to establish a credit rating with my wholesale suppliers. But we were pleased at the end of the first month to have cleared a little more than the salary I had been getting in Edmonton.

I had no back workshop, so did my work on the front counter where customers could watch it done. Engraving seemed to create a lot of interest and I soon had a lot of this to do. One day I received an order for a gents' gold signet ring and having none in stock, suggested I could make him one. He agreed when assured he did not have to take it unless he was satisfied. It turned out well and I got special orders for these rings for many years.

Early in the fall of 1918 we were burned out and in December I came down with the flu and was ill for weeks. Fortunately we had a very reliable man at the store — Mr. Sam Dickson. When I was able to return to work in Feb. 1919, business was at a low ebb. It had been a very hard winter and many people had been down with flu. In the fall the boys were returning from the war with cash to spend and grain prices were at a high. For the next ten years our town and district grew.

Business in the 30's (the depression years) came nearly to a standstill. Every merchant was hard-pressed to get any cash and we wore our clothes until there was nothing left of them. After about three years of the depression, we found it impossible to pay our taxes. Out of the blue, Rev. Mr. Orton, the Anglican Minister, came to me with a cheque to cover the full amount due. I know that many people were helped by this good man. One night during a blizzard, I was going home from the store near mid-

night, and saw a man pushing a wheel barrow full of coal. It was not uncommon at that time to find someone had visited your coal bin during the night, and I eased over to see if I could recognize the thief. I recognized Rev. Orton, so went on home. The next day I found out he had taken the coal to a widow with small children who had no fuel.

Conditions improved and by this time our fourth child, Albert Tracy, had been born. As he grew older, he began to help me in the store after school and on Saturdays. In 1940 Tracy enlisted in the R.C.A.F. and before the end of the war our three girls and Tracy were all married.

In 1948 the building in which we were doing business was condemned and we purchased the property where the store is now located, renovating the old buildings on it. In 1953 this was destroyed by fire and we had what merchandise was saved stored for us by Russell Berscht in his store's basement until we could set up shop in part of Rimington's Garage, where we stayed until our new building, the Ingham Block, was finished in 1955.

In January 1959 Tracy took over the business, and I was back where I had started — working for a salary. I was free to keep busy or to travel to visit my daughters and grandchildren and my two brothers in B.C.

George Ingham married Vira Dowsett in November 1912 in Lethbridge. Vira died April 13, 1953 and is buried in Innisfail.

Children: Mildred married Rey Spackman (Kamloops); Marjorie married Ken McCoig (Anaheim, Calif.); Darlene married Harry Scott (died Sept. 1972, Toronto); Juanita died at 18 mons.; Tracy married Laura Reid (lives at Innisfail); four children — Karen, Albert, Valerie and Garth.

THE INGLIS STORY by George Inglis

My father was born in Aberdeen, Banffshire, Scotland on Feb. 28, 1860 and it was there he attended school. At the age of twenty-six in 1886, he arrived in Montreal from his homeland and he obtained employment at Dow's Brewery. However, he wanted to farm so he journeyed by train to Calgary to look over the country. Central Alberta area appealed to him. He filed on a homestead in the Antler Hill District, north of Innisfail, which was to become his home for the rest of his life.

The journey to the homestead from Calgary was made by covered wagon as there was no railway north from Calgary yet.

At least the first breaking was done with oxen which were also used to break up land for some of his fellow homesteaders. It was his oxen that did the first breaking on the John A. Carswell homestead.

On August 20, 1893, at the home of the brides' father and step-mother, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Wells, he was married to Marion Wells.

Mr. and Mrs. Inglis took an active part in the development of Antler Hill. Mr. Inglis helped to build the Chalmers Presbyterian Church at Penhold of which he was an elder. He also served on the



Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Inglis, Laura and George.

school board of the Antler Hill school. He was a member of the Municipal District of Arthur.

Their family consisted of two sons and one daughter — George T. was born August 29, 1895. He went to school at Antler Hill and later married Annie Fowler. They had two daughters, Margaret (Mrs. Axel Bystrom) of Sylvan Lake and Betty (Mrs. Jens Kolbjornsrud) of Calgary. Annie Inglis died in 1961 and George later married Mrs. Sadie Ellis.

George farmed for many years in the Antler Hill district. In 1971 he and Sadie moved to Red Deer where they still reside.

Laura Elizabeth Inglis was born in 1898. She married Carl Snellman and they reside at Lillooet, B.C.

Walter William Inglis was born March 3, 1905 and married Hazel Pye on March 3, 1931. After farming for many years in the Antler Hill district they moved to Didsbury and in 1957 to Innisfail where Mr. Inglis died in 1963. Hazel Inglis has made her home in Innisfail ever since.

Walter and Hazel Inglis had two sons and a daughter: Donald who married Iris Wells and lives in Red Deer and Dennis who married Shirley Piesse and lives in Innisfail; and Barbara who married James Giesbrecht and lives in Red Deer.

The early neighbors in those days were John Farrar, James Speakman the A. Archibalds, McAllisters, the Gillis family and Galloways.

Antler Hill school was built on the Ephraim McAllister's farm. The early teachers were Mr. Mayhood, Mr. Saw, Jessie Whiteside, Miss Clayton, Mary Speakman and Miss Jessie Taylor who later married John Farrar.

In 1943 William and Marion Inglis had the pleasure of celebrating their Golden Wedding Anniversary with their family in their own home.

The family during their farming life bought much of their needs at G.W. Wests' store in Innisfail.

Mr. Inglis died at the Red Deer Municipal Hospital on July 11 at the age of 90 years. Mrs. Inglis

followed him seventeen months later on December 20, 1951 at the age of 88 years. Both are interred at the Horn Hill Cemetery.

WILLIAM HAINE JACKSON by J.G. Jackson

W.H. Jackson was born November 8, 1886 on a farm in the "Cider" County of Somersetshire in South West England. He was educated in Sexey's School and Reading University at Reading, Berkshire. He also took a course at the British Dairy Institute at Reading and obtained a degree from the University.

He came to Canada in March, 1907 and with a brother operated a farm at Broadview, Saskatchewan. Three years later he sold his interest in the farm and came west to Alberta, locating at Innisfail. He often said the trees looked so good after the bald-headed prairie.

The First Dairy Convention was held in Alberta, at Innisfail, in 1911, which he attended. He started working as a buttermaker in the Government Creamery that spring. He worked for a year, and during December, because of the shortage of buttermakers, made butter the first three days of the week at Innisfail and the last three days of the week at High River to relieve the manager there.

It was in February, 1912 that W.H. Jackson went to Markerville as the buttermaker under Dan Morkeberg. He remained there, in various capacities, until April 1922. Then he came to Innisfail to superintend the building of the new creamery on the east side of town. At this time there was one in operation on the west side of town known as the Woodland Dairy. The new plant was operating by the latter part of May. For a short time, the two creameries operated at the same time.

In the early years, under the guidance of Dr. Marker, butter was exhibited at the various Fairs across Canada and in one year, Innisfail, with Bill Hansen as buttermaker, the Markerville Creamery took every first prize for creamery butter from Toronto to Victoria. This gave Alberta Butter a great boost Nationally.

Bill Jackson attended nearly every Dairy Convention in the Province of Alberta since 1911.

In 1935, Bill Jackson with D.J. Morkeberg, William H. Morris and others formed the "Independent Creameries Ltd", of which he is still the President in his eighty-seventh year. (1973). He was President of the Alberta Dairymen's Association for the year 1938-39 and 1948-49. — 49.

W.H. Jackson was an ardent Mason, one of the key members in the building of the Innisfail Masonic Hall in 1926. (The Contractor was Archibald McKechnie.) He, Dad, went on to hold the highest office of the Lodge and was the Grand Master of the Grand Lodges of Alberta (1953-54).

As a community worker he served many years on the School Board, and Town Council through the formative years of the towns' modernization. He was Mayor of the Town of Innisfail from 1945-48.

W.H. Jackson married Edith May Hodge and they raised a family of four: Wesley Haine who operates the Independent Creameries Branch at Lacombe.

Wes has been Mayor of Lacombe and a great community promotor. He married Georgia Miller. They have four children: Pat (Mrs. Long), Susan (Mrs. B. Milligan), Catherine and Bill. Elizabeth Louise (Betty) married Dr. Gordon Bell of Edmonton. They have four children: Douglas (M.C.), Barbara (Mrs. Klinke), Janet (Mrs. M. Rodgers) and Nancy (Mrs. D. Craig). John G. who is operating the Head Office plant at Innisfail with the aid of two sons, Brian and Bruce and other very faithful employees, Ray H. Morris (Shareholder), Stan Dent, Charles Jefferies, & Robert Ditchburn. J.G. Jackson married the former Ruth Bradshaw and they have eight children: Joan (Mrs. D. Sandham), Karen, Brian, Bruce, Eric, Edith, Carol and Ellen.

Edgar Lenny, the third son is Owner-Operator of Jackson's Drug Store Ltd in Innisfail. He married Pat Parcels. They have six children: Tim, Dana, Janice, Brent, Sandra and Mark.

Mrs. Edith Jackson passed away in 1937 and is interred in the Innisfail Cemetery. W.H. Jackson married the former Bessie Wilson in 1941 and they moved to Victoria in 1968 where they are enjoying good health.

Mrs Reta Cole reports from the census figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Innisfail's population in the early years as being:

In 1901	the population was 317
In 1911	602
In 1921	941
In 1968	2,748

JOSEPH JACOBS & FAMILY by Harry Jacobs

My family consisted of my parents, Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Jacobs, and:

Luella — who married John Saunders on February 17, 1903, lived on a homestead in the Mayton district. Deceased; in Bowden Cemetery.

Norman — came west to Manitoba on a harvest excursion about 1898 and stayed a year. Then he went on to Vancouver and Victoria, then back to Macleod. Now in his 97th year, and still a bachelor, he is in a Red Deer Nursing Home.

Mabel — married D.H. Kremer, who with his father operated the Brick Yard in Innisfail. Deceased.

Annie — married William Pendergast, who was the local mail carrier. Deceased.

Harry — born at Perth, Ont. in 1884; married Lillian Evans in 1913. She taught in the Horse Shoe Lake School for a time. We have three sons: Harold — bought a half-section from his Grandfather and lived there until a few years ago. Now lives on an acreage at Niobe just north of Innisfail. Orville — is with the C.N.R. at Edmonton Airport. Mervin — is at Dawson Creek, B.C. with Moore Business Forms.

Fred — who also had land in the Horse Shoe Lake district was a bachelor. Died in 1942.

Edna — married Harry Law and is now living in Victoria, B.C.

Iva — married Otto Lamb and is now living in Eugene, Oregon.

In 1900 the Pendergast family came to Innisfail and our family followed in 1901. We brought a carload of settler's effects and a carload of heifers rising two-year old. We left Perth, Ont. on a Tuesday evening; got to Winnipeg Saturday night, and arrived at Innisfail Wednesday noon. Now you can do it in four hours by jet plane!

Dad and three sons homesteaded one section of land and Dad bought a half-section beside it, so we had 960 acres to hide in. As Uncle John Smith said, "You bet the Government \$10 that you could make a living on this land for three years to get your title." We won out and the 1/2 Dad bought cost \$3.15 per acre, so the 960 acres cost only \$1,048 plus years of hard work.



Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Jacobs on their 60th Wedding Anniversary Apr. 20, 1934.

I can still remember Fred and I milking 14 each of those heifers while the rest of the family were away picking saskatoons. Those steer calves grew up in three years and after feeding them grain we sold them at 3-1/2 cents per pound.

My father, Joseph Jacobs, and Mr. Pendergast built the Horse Shoe Lake school and the next year built the Steadman School.

Tragedy? Just a murder six miles away and as they were starting a cemetery in Innisfail at the time, Bob Edwards reported in his 'Eye Opener' — "They had to shoot a man in Innisfail to start a cemetery."

Our first neighbors were Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Smith, (Mae and Fred were still at home), and John, Anthony Jr., Robert and Thomas; Otto Krause Sr.; Schafers; Hamiltons; and Mathers.

We were 16 miles from town, no way to get there except saddle horse or wagon; no roads, no schools until we organized them. We made our own amusements and had lots of fun and if we wanted something out of the ordinary, all we had to do was call on Johnny Robinson's mother and Clem Thompson's father and they could really put it on in High English style. They were real entertainers.

Joseph Jacobs died in 1939 and his wife in 1942. They are buried in Innisfail.

JARDINE FAMILY by Walter Jardine

From the Ottawa district of Ontario, the Jardines arrived in Innisfail on the 27th of March, 1905 to find a real old fashioned chinook blowing.

The Mother, Annie Jardine, had spent nine days in a tourist car with seven children. Her husband and oldest son had followed with the stock car. Those were the days when tourists travelled in not much more comfort and scarcely faster than the old covered wagon style. In fact it was said that a person could run ahead of the train, snare a gopher and easily catch up to the train again.

We really felt that we had hit the Promised Land. The snow was melting and we had difficulty in finding enough snow to take us out the five miles into the Grahamston locality where we were to stay until the homestead could be made habitable.

Our father, and my eldest brother were following in a stock car, bringing all the useful things for a new country and the usual useless things that would never be used too.

Samuel Jardine had been out the previous year and filed on a homestead in the eastern country which was later known as the Hogadone district. Meanwhile, they lived on the old MacBeth place some five miles east of Innisfail. There was nothing built on it yet so we made two temporary stops before the log house and pole buildings were ready.

Finally, with the help of the good neighbors, the well was dug; the poplar logs squared and the house shingled. The stables of poles and straw were usable and some land was broken. Twenty-five miles away, Innisfail was still our town.

We soon found out that our Promised Land had its' disadvantages too — intense cold, hail, frost, loneliness and mosquitoes. Schools were far apart and teachers were hard to get. Roads were poor and distances long, Churches even further apart.

We did find that people were friendly. Neighbors gave their help without a thought of returns. No person ever went hungry and if they needed help they were never turned away. If the social life was simple, it was genuine. I still have memories of the winter parties where games, recitations and debates were the order of the night.



Jardine Family

In 1907, the eldest daughter Sarah married Samuel Pendergast and in 1909 the next daughter married his brother Howard.

Following the death of the mother, the next two girls were married: Muriel to John Roberts — a pioneer who helped build the school in Innisfail — and Jessie married Harry Crary.

Mrs. Jardine (Mother) was buried in the old Knee Hill Cemetery and instead of a headstone, a spruce tree was planted. A tombstone was later put in place.

Shortly after the family broke up. The three boys, Donald, Walter and Kenneth went into the Army. The three younger girls — Sybil, Gertrude and Mable went with their father to Winnipeg. The second youngest girl, Ruth, went with her sister Muriel and the youngest was, Jean, adopted by Mr. and Mrs. Hastie of Trochu.

After the death of my mother in 1911, the family was indeed widely scattered. Of the eleven of us to become adults, six are still living at the time of this story. They, of course, are well advanced into the senior citizen group. However the "Grands" and the "Great Grands" are scattered from Yellow Knife through Alberta, Idaho, Washington, Nevada to Arkansas — but, still owning Alberta as their home place.

Children of Samuel Jardine are: Sarah, Annie, Muriel, Jessie, Donald, Walter, Sybil Thelma, Kenneth, Gertrude, Mabel, Ruth, Jean and a baby who died in infancy.

Sarah and Annie's families: see Pendergast story.

Muriel and John Roberts had three sons: Earl, Harold and Donald. Jessie and Harry Crary had four children: Louise, Arnold (Bud), Bob and Dick. Donald and Jean Jardine have six children: Ted, Ruth, Shirley, Gordon, Rosemary and John. Walter and Alice Jardine have two daughters: Thelma and Mamie. Sybil married Orville Cheek and had three children: Robert, Doris and Dennis. She is deceased and her sister Gertrude married Orville Cheek later. Kenneth married Verna Pendergast and have two daughters: Bernice and Donna. Mabel married Bill McEwan and have three children: Catherine, Mary and Bill. Jean married Rudolph Johnson and have four children: Marilyn, Merle, Lorraine and John.

T.A. (TED) JENSEN by Norman & Howard Jensen

Ted Jensen was born in Minnesota in 1887. He and his brother Jack came from North Dakota by covered wagon across Saskatchewan to Gleichen in 1908. They arrived in the Dickson area in 1909 and took up a homestead south and west of Dickson. They were not too interested in farming — they preferred hunting and trapping. They spent most of the next two years trapping and hunting in the west country around Rocky Mountain House, Nordegg, and Swan Lake. The returns for their first winter of trapping was \$64.65. They had no building on their homestead, so the brothers stayed with the Lundgrens the first year. In 1911 Ted Jensen married Gerda Lundgren. The first winter he was married, he was trapping west of Nordegg and wanted to be home for



The way T. A. "Ted" Jensen came to Innisfail.

Christmas, so with pack on back, he struck off on snow shoes across country to Dickson.

He was always mechanically inclined, and soon left the farm to work in Innisfail as a blacksmith and later as a mechanic. He was always inventive and made several unique cars. In 1917 he built a car out of scraps powered by a detroit engine. It had wooden wheels cut down from wagon wheels with steel tires. Carl Morkeberg recalls this car when Ted and Gerda drove it to Markerville for an Icelandic Picnic Celebration. He made a couple of early snow vehicles; one with tandem drive and one with single drive. He also designed an automatic action for a rifle but was unable to continue with it because of lack of funds.

He worked for Oxley & Moran, Kremer's Garage, and also in Bert Carter's Garage. In 1924 he started Jensen's Garage and about 1925 took Oscar Lundgren and Frank Leslie as partners. He had the G.M. franchise until 1948 when he and his sons bought Oscar out; and they had Mercury Meteor franchise from 1949 to 1956 when they operated as Innisfail Motors Ltd. Ted's brother Jack farmed at Raven until his passing.

Gerda's main outside interest was with the United Church; she was in the choir for years and very active in the Ladies' Aid. To add to their income she had many boarders through the years.

Ted was interested in baseball and played some in his early days; but his main interest was in the out-

doors and wild life. He was an ardent big game hunter in early life but in later years preferred shooting with a camera. He was a long-time member of the Fish & Game Association. George Ingham was one of his closest friends.

He was an ardent marksman and was instrumental in starting a rifle range on the western outskirts of town. He also started an indoor range where he was in charge of the cadets and taught many young people how to shoot and handle guns safely. He was one of Canada's top marksmen, competing for many years in Calgary, Eastern Canada, and Bisley, England, winning a place on the Bisley team for many years.

He retired to the farm in Raven where he lived until he died in 1963; his wife predeceased him in 1942. Both were buried in Innisfail Cemetery.



Ted Jensen and Frank Leslie in doorway.

About 1911 Ted and Jack's brothers Edgar and Cyrus and sister Agnes came to join their brothers and all homesteaded in the Raven district. Edgar and his wife Ethel sold out and retired to Penticton where Edgar passed away. Cyrus married Miss Van Dusen from Saskatchewan and Agnes married Ernest Forbes.

Ted and Gerda's family:

Howard — born in 1914; married Jean Davidson and now living in Raven where they own the Raven General Store; Ronald, David, Wendy.

Norman — born in 1920; single and living on farm in Raven.

Ernie — born in 1925; Ernie and wife Vickie living in Caroline; Stephen, Tresa.

Marie & Helen, twins, born in 1933 — Marie married Earl Purcell; living on farm at Innisfail; Richard, Gary, Keneth, Stanley, Connie.

Helen married Kurt Crossfield; living in Calgary; Kurt Jr., Lisa.

JAMES JENSON by Laurie Jenson

The Jensons operated a jam factory in Preston, England before coming to Canada. James Jenson, an accountant by profession, was born about 1864. James, his uncle Evan, two sisters — Hannah and Polly, and two brothers, Tom and Will, came to Innisfail about 1901. Jim and his uncle Evan took up homesteads in the Knee Hill Valley district 18 miles east of Innisfail. Later, Jim Jenson moved to Innisfail where he was employed by the M.D. of Arthur as the



Mr. and Mrs. "Ted" Jensen on their Wedding Day.

first Secretary-Treasurer of the town. He married Sarah Elizabeth Rodgers on May 16, 1906. There were twin sons born to them on Oct. 20, 1907. Albert died at birth; Laurence still lives in Innisfail. James Jenson died in 1927.

Laurence Jenson has worked for the Innisfail Province under editor-publishers Ben Huckell, John Huckell, and Hap Clarke. Laurence married Kathleen Savage.

Incorporation of the town came in 1903. The first town council elected was: Mayor S.J. Curry Councillors W.H. Kemp, J.E. Fawdry, C.B. McCallum, S.P. Fream, J. Stewart and J.A. Simpson.

THE JOHANNSON BROTHERS by Albert and Phyllis Johannson

In the summer of 1888 five Johannson brothers with their parents migrated from Iceland to Canada. They were Siggarr, Gunnar, Kristjan and Tegudore (twins), and Sigtrigger. It was a long arduous journey by immigrant boat from Iceland to Scotland and then across the Atlantic to Halifax. Then crowded with others into a train for the west — Winnipeg, and eventually Calgary. Hearing of an Icelandic settlement at Tindastoll, the brothers decided to trek north, with the exception of Tegudore who settled in Gimli, Manitoba.

Each of the four brothers took up homesteads in this district. Looking for hay land for cattle and sheep, they sought low open land and sloughs. This proved disastrous in the wet years of 1900-01 as the only hay they got was on higher ground as late as Sept. and Oct. So they let their first homesteads go and found higher better land in the same locality and took out new homesteads. With hard work and perseverance, for they were a hardy lot of pioneers, they built up their homes and life in this new land. They married immigrant Icelandic girls and raised their families to be good Canadian citizens.

Their first community project was to build a school for their children. At a meeting on Jan. 28, 1899 at the Tindastoll Post Office, they established the Tindastoll School. Both Gunnar and Kris were on the School Board, Kris for 35 years.

They raised sheep, cattle and milked cows for a living. This they had done in Iceland and knew how to take care of animals even though the winters here were far more severe than in their homeland.

The women washed and spun their own wool and knit hundreds of pairs of socks and mitts every year. They sold or traded most of them for groceries or other things they needed. Mrs. Charlie Parker remembers her mother, Mrs. Dr. George, buying Icelandic socks and mitts for her twelve children when they lived at Poplar Grove. (Innisfail).

Once a year the brothers with other men in the district sold their cattle and sheep. They drove them over the trails, had to ford the Red Deer River, before the bridge was built in 1902, into Poplar

Grove. This was a great day, when the men dressed in their best rode horseback or walked with their sheep. They always came back late in high spirits and singing loudly.

Before the C.P.R. came through from Calgary to Edmonton, Kristjan walked to Calgary several times for winter employment in that city. Leaving about 5 a.m. he walked all day, resting at night at the half-way house on the Big Coulee east of Didsbury and arriving at Calgary before noon the next day.

In 1907 the Icelandic Lutheran Church was built with volunteer labour and the brothers helped with the building and were staunch supporters of their minister, Rev. Pjetur Hjalmsosn.

They fished in the creeks and rivers in the spring and summer months to eke out their food. Before there was a store in Markerville, all trading was done at West's store in Innisfail. They traded fire wood, mutton, butter, eggs, etc.

The grandchildren of these pioneers still farm or have their homes on the same homesteads and are third generation farmers.

G.E. JOHNSON — MARKERVILLE by Myrtle Stephenson

Mr. Johnson was born in Minnesota U.S.A. He came with his father and sister in 1896 to Markerville area. He ran a store for forty years and was Post master for thirty-two years. He sold in 1939 to Mr. Gremm.

He married Margaret Stephenson in 1907. They were the first couple to be married in the Markerville Church. In 1939 they retired to Victoria and were able to celebrate their Fiftieth Anniversary in 1956.



Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Johnson

WILLIAM HENRY JOHNSON by Adam Johnston

William Henry Johnston, his wife Margaret and their two children came from Milton, Ontario where they had lived for thirteen years. They left Milton on March 17 and arrived in Innisfail two weeks later. Henry and Margaret had both been born in Enniskillen, Ireland.

Mr. Will Center who had come from Milton earlier had been the one responsible for advising the Johnstons to come here. The Johnstons arrived in Innisfail March 1900. Two other families were on the same train, the Fred Greens and the Browns.



The Johnsons

Henry was a farm laborer and the first year the family lived in Innisfail in a house (still standing) across from Macleods store today. He worked on the railway. When winter came the family moved to the Aberdeen district where he cut logs to build a house on his homestead, located ten miles south in the Nesbit district. When spring of 1902 came the house was finished and the family settled in their new home. The homestead quarter was heavily wooded and he often told how when he first rode down to look at the land, he had to cut enough willows to clear a space where he could safely picket his horse. He was road boss for some time in the building of the first roads in the district. This was a paying job whereas the men under him were working out their taxes. His wife Margaret died in childbirth in September 1902. The two children were 9 and 12 yrs. To assist in feeding his family he had acquired cows on shares. The cream was taken to the creamery to buy groceries. When the day job on the road was done he would work half the night clearing his land. It was a hard life, but his body and spirit were strong.



Henry Johnston operating the grader; Adam Johnston standing with reins in hand.

Neighbors were Bookless, Border, Nesbit, Boffey, Gillette, Pearce and Bill Lewis. There was no school until 1904. Bessie and Adam were among the first to enroll at the Nesbit school. Mr. Baycroft was the first teacher. Henry served as trustee for some years and

assisted in planting the large spruce trees that are still standing.

The eldest child, Bessie, married Ben Sannis. She died in February 1943. Adam married Mary Curtice. Their son now farms the old homestead.

Henry Johnston died in Dec. 1954 at the age of 90. He is interred in the Innisfail cemetery beside his wife Margaret. Their daughter Bessie is also buried there.

Mr. Charles Murray came to Innisfail in 1889. His property was the original townsite. He died of apoplexy in 1912. He had 1 son and 2 daughters (Mrs. T.F. Dobson and Mrs. C.B. McCallum).

ORGANIZATIONS, PICNICS



Little Red Deer Dorcas Society 1916. Front row: (seated) Miss Duncan, Mrs. N. H. Briggs, Mrs. Wm. Edgar, Mrs. Anne Calder; (standing) Janet Edgar, Mrs. Hamilton Duncan. Second row: Mrs. MacDougall, Miss Kate Cowan, Mrs. Wm. Simpson, Mrs. Tester, Mrs. Mackay, Mrs. Neil Cameron, Mrs. Jas. Scarlett, Mrs. Jas. Milligan, Mrs. John Campbell; back row: Miss Jean Calder, Mrs. Harry Kent, ?, Miss Louise Tester, ?, ?. The Little Red Deer Dorcas Society was organized by Mrs. Anne Calder, (mother of George Calder), in October 1912. This organization is still active and is now the Dorcas W.I.



Red Cross Society. Back row: Mrs. Partington, Mrs. Niblock, Mrs. Snider, Mrs. Ted Baker; 2nd. row: Mrs. A. Ford, Mrs. Kilby, Mrs. T. Songhurst, Mrs. G. S. Blake, Mrs. Connors; front row: Gladys Partington, Mina Brush, Hazel Blake, May Pixley.



Presbyterian Picnic at Red Deer River about 1912.



Picnic on old Walton farm south of Innisfail, taken about 1904.



Oklahoma Picnic 1905



Horseshoe Lake Picnic



Big Bend Ladies' Aid Group. Back row; L. to R.: Mrs. Joe Potter, Mrs. McKay, Mrs. Fred Munro, Mrs. Goddard, Mrs. I. Bateman, Mrs. D. Sullivan, Rev. Goddard, Mrs. John Conn, Mrs. Giles, Mrs. Jim Potter, Mrs. Brandt, Mrs. Wm. Munro; Front row: Mrs. Albert Conn, Mrs. Ernie Sullivan, Mrs. Hubert Munro, Mrs. Max Edgar, Mrs. Clarence Munro, Irene Conn, Mrs. Frank Schafer, Pearl Munro, Mrs. Dave Bateman.

HANS PETER JORGENSEN by Constance J.N. Potter

Hans Peter Jorgensen and his wife Marion Christine Pedersen were married in Denmark. Their children Constance, Olga, Meta and John were all born in Denmark.

We all came by boat and rail to Calgary — arriving in Calgary May 4, 1904. We remained in Calgary 2 months and my father worked on the sewer system there for three months and then came to Dickson and took up a homestead 1-1/2 mi. west of Dickson. He worked in saw mills in the winter and broke land for farmers in the summer besides doing his own work on the homestead. He sold the homestead in 1911 and moved to Innisfail where he bought the Innisfail Feed

Mill. He ground feed for farmers as well as making rye flour to sell.

Dad had been a farmer and stone cutter in Denmark.

Dad built the house George Norgaard lives in, the mill was behind it. I think the engine is still there. We children attended school in Innisfail. Through income from the mill Dad was able to rent the Schafer farm (1/2 mi. S of Innisfail) for 5 years and he had rented the mill out in that time.

The school we attended was the old brick school that is now torn down. One of the teachers I remember so well was Miss Musgrove in grade 7.

I remember the Aspinalls, Cooks, McLeans, McArthurs, Dundas, Andersons, Wests, Fumertons, Foxes, Schafers, Adams, Cousins, Campbells, Moores, Whitcombs & Wilsons so well. We attended the Anglican Church.

I remember the time the Red Deer River was so high it was over the bridge (in 1915).

I (Constance) married George Jeffs Potter in 1920.

A. E. KEAST by Mrs. Jennie Stringer

A. E. Keast came to Alberta from St. John, N.B. in 1898 to homestead in the Aberdeen district on land now owned by Alfred Chute. He was thirty-five years old. He farmed for several years and then moved into Innisfail where he had a rooming-house called the 'King Edward' situated where the Library is now. It burned down later and he then opened a real estate office on main street where the tire shop is located now. He married Edith Gaetz, a niece of Dr. Leo. Gaetz, after 1903. He died of cancer of the liver. His widow returned to her home in Nova Scotia where she is buried.

His sister, Hettie M. Keast and a niece, Ethel, joined him in Innisfail in 1899. Hettie taught school in Innisfail and then moved to Red Deer where she married F.H. Tallman. Ethel trained as a nurse in the Calgary General Hospital, married Charles Ferris, a Fireman; and died in 1932 of Typhoid fever. She is buried in Red Deer.

A.E. Keast was one of the charter members of First Baptist Church, Calgary, and of the Innisfail Baptist Church, of which he was for years one of the officers. When the Baptist Church at Innisfail was built, he gave one hundred days labor besides financial help.

EBENEZER KELLY by Edward D. Kelly

My father, Ebenezer Kelly, was born near Guelph, Ontario in 1857 on his father's farm. He served in the militia for a couple of years, and in the early 1880's he went to Chicago and was foreman over a Gas Gang that put water and gas underground in the city of Chicago.

In 1886 he came back to Tilbury, Ontario and bought 100 acres of good hardwood-covered land, then proceeded to get married. From then on he was very busy with his axe, cutting this valuable timber and hauling it to Chatham, ten miles away, to sell.

My oldest sister, Rose, was born in 1887, Pearl next in 1893, I was born in 1898, Manson late in

1899, Evan in 1901; Susan in 1904 and Violet in 1908 were born on the farm west of Markerville.

My father was troubled a lot with rheumatism, so he decided to come to Alberta because of the dryer climate. In June 1901 he came to Alberta, found the place where he decided to locate, and filed on two homestead quarters and bought a 1/2 section of C.P.R. land adjoining. (The first quarter is the one Mr. H. Ramsey lives on now.) He then went back to Ontario and in Feb. 1902, sold his farm, livestock, and equipment that he felt could not be used in Alberta, and bought a carload of pure-bred Shorthorn heifers in calf. Then his younger brother, John, his family, and our family, with two car-loads of settler's effects and the car-load of heifers left for Alberta.

The trip from Tilbury to Innisfail took us about 2 1/2 weeks as the cattle had to be unloaded in a stockyard every night to be fed and watered; then reloaded in the car. During the trip all us kids got the chickenpox and were just getting over it when we arrived in Innisfail.

The first thing my Dad did after we arrived was to rent a 1/4 of land with a large house on it 2 1/2 miles SW of Innisfail (later known as the Wilson house). We lived there for over a year, while my father bought horses and oxen, broke them in to work with the help of Bob Donner and Hugh Cameron, who were very good neighbors; and worked on a house on our land. After he had built the house on the CPR 1/2 section, we moved the cattle with all our equipment with the help of Buford Baker (who was then 13 years old) and we arrived at our new home the same day, with our seats a little sore from riding that distance on boards across the top of the wagonbox.

Our heifers were soon cows and we all turned in to milking them and bought a cream separator from John A. Simpson. He ran a hardware and lumber store, feed-shed, restaurant and rooming-house (where the Westend Service Station stands today). When the province of Alberta was officially formed in 1905, John became the first representative of Innisfail district in the Alberta Legislature, running as a Liberal. He had a partner in business with him by the name of Archer who ran as Conservative in the 1922 election and won the seat.

We hauled our cream to the Markerville Creamery twice a week and got a back cheque each year just before Christmas which was sent to T. Eaton's for bolts of denim and dress material, skeins of wool, underwear, etc.

We started haying about the 15th of June on open land and left our own land for the hay to mature more; haying generally lasted until the heavy frost came. We had to plow good fireguards around every haystack, as the prairie fires came through there every year. Everybody always kept good fireguards plowed around their buildings. A fireguard consisted of about 14 plow furrows, then skip a strip of two rods and plow another 14 furrows. If a fire was heading directly towards your place, you went out and set fire to the grass between your double

fireguard, which when burnt would double the width of your fireguard. Then when you were dead-sure the fire was coming across your land, you set fire outside the guard on the side the fire was coming from and it would slowly burn back against the wind where the fire was coming from and greatly widen your fire protection. We had to learn to fight fire very early in life in those days; if you saw a heavy smoke across the country, even if 10 miles away, it was every man's duty to drop everything and go help fight the fire.

In the winter, Dad would supplement our income by freighting lumber to Innisfail from the Raven at 2 dollars a thousand; it took two sixteen-hours days to make the trip.

In the spring of 1905 Pearl, Manson, and myself started to drive to the Hola School in the buggy — about 5 miles east of our ranch across the Medicine River. We left our team & buggy at Mr. Christianson's barn and crossed the river on a narrow cable foot-bridge to the school. One of the first things we were asked to do was to plant Spruce trees on May Day around the school yard; each of us planted a tree according to his or her height; and after almost seventy years they are still standing.



Mr. and Mrs. Ed Kelly

In those days there were no fridges or deep freezers and every farmer had to make his own cooling system. We had a 'root cellar' — a hole in the ground with a log frame and covered with sods - that was very cool even in the hottest days of summer. We could keep cream, milk, meat and vegetables for almost a week. When the Beef Ring was formed in 1905, we were able to have fresh meat every day all summer. The Beef Ring consisted of about 25 neighbors, each in turn donating a beef. Mr. Baker did the butchering, weighing, cutting and delivering twice a week. You received a different cut of meat each time and at the end of the season, if you received more pounds of meat than your animal dressed out, you paid for the extra pounds, and if less, you were paid in cash. Mr. Baker received the beef hide and \$2.50 cash for each animal.

In the fall of 1909 my dad sold the farm and we moved into Innisfail and rented a house from Mr. E.J. Fream, just north of where Frank West lives now. My sister Pearl, Manson, Evan and myself started to the New Brick School which had just been opened a few months before. Needless to say the town kids picked on us green country kids who were dressed in blouses and knee pants, but they soon found out that we could very well take care of ourselves. Among the kids in our room at that time were: Dewey Barwis, Reta Cole, Oliver St. Deny, Roy & Orval MacArthur, Reg Geary, Moore boys, McElroy boys, Frank West, Skinny McFadgen, Potters, and Shanks boys. Older boys like Grant Geary, Fleet Kirkham, and Jack West were still going to school here in 1910.

Father bought a quarter of land just one mile west of Lakeview School and another near the Hogadone School. He built a large house on the Lakeview quarter finished by the first of December. At this time most of the family were in the Red Deer Hospital with Typhoid fever. We all got out of the hospital before Christmas except my Mother who came out a month later. My father and all us boys batched it in the new house all winter, baking our own bread, washing, scrubbing, and learning to play checkers. In March, Mr. Merrill, who ran the Lakeview P.O., hardware, rooming & boarding house, telephone central, along with a farm and livery stable, asked my dad if he would allow me to come down to help him out with the farm chores, at 50c a day. After supper Mr. Merrill would tell the boarders and travellers that I could play checkers, and get out the checkerboard if they would like to play. They started paying me 25c for a win and 50c for skunking them. I was soon making more money playing checkers than doing chores.

We three boys and my next to youngest sister Susan started to Lakeview School in 1911 finishing our elementary and high school there. Manson and Evan went on to Camrose Normal School, and started teaching in 1922. I stayed home to farm and married Julia E. Strachan on May 8, 1922. Our oldest daughter June was born June 11, 1923.

My father had passed away of a ruptured appendix in July 1922.

In 1908 my oldest sister, Rose, married Ernest Benton of Innisfail. He was a barber in Crossfield, Edmonton, Vancouver until his death in 1950. Rose died in Vancouver in 1954. Children: Olive, Ivan and Ernest; Olive lives in Vancouver and the boys in Washington.

Pearl married John Quinlan in June 1914. They had four children: Evelyn, Buster (J.W.), Ruth, and Clifford. They all stayed on their farm until John died in 1952; then sold out and moved to Calgary.

Violet married Wallace Wheaton of Wainwright in 1929. They farmed for two years, then moved to B.C. They had two girls — Elaine and Doreen, who are married and have families living in Vancouver. Wallace and Violet are living in Burnaby, B.C.

Susan married Joe Layden of Milnerton district in 1923. They had six children. (see Layden story).

Manson married Ella Layden in 1928. Manson taught school until he got married; then farmed and served on the Lakeview school board until the school was closed. He also served on the Council at Delburne and County of R.D. for over 25 yrs. until he sold his farm and moved to Edmonton to operate a Self-serving Machine business which is being carried on by his wife Ella and children Frances, James and Norman since his death on Dec. 1, 1964.

Evan married Amelia Biggs in 1925 and had five Children. He taught school all his life. He passed away on Nov. 13, 1958.

Our mother passed away in Feb. 1943.

Our children (Julia & Ed) are: June — married John Moran; five children: Lawrence, Robert, Marianne, Pat and Trudy.

Marion — married Kenneth Stevenson; one daughter, Cindy. Through the years I did a lot of custom breaking and clearing along with a trucking business which I operated for over twenty-five years. Julia and I sold our farm, had an auction sale, bought an almost new house here in Innisfail, where we now make our home. In my 'retirement' I opened up a gun shop. I still like to go out in the West Country hunting big game. Julia and I still do a lot of driving and hunting and camping up west in those spruce and pine which we both love. We celebrated our 50th Wedding Anniversary in 1972, the first such celebrated in the New Legion Hall.

Sam Wing had a Laundry in 1904.

WILLIAM GEORGE KELLY by Brian R. Kelly & Molly (Kelly) Fagan

William George Kelly was born on June 1, 1882 at Newtownards, County Down, N. Ireland. He was a typist in Ireland and at the age of eighteen he enlisted in the Boer War and saw service in South Africa until its conclusion. He emigrated to Canada and homesteaded near Innisfail in 1903. He worked on his homestead during the winter months and spent summers in Calgary at brick-laying. He used to tell how a couple of his cousins came to visit him and got snowbound for several days. They got so bored with nothing to do but stay in his shack (it was 40° below outside), they were even trying to read the newspapers that he had pasted on the walls upside down.

In 1912, he married a widow, Elizabeth Jane Freeman (nee' Robinson), with a small son, Joseph Mack Freeman. Brian Robinson Kelly was born on July 29, 1913 while William and Elizabeth were visiting in Newtownards, Ireland. A daughter, Mary Eleanor, known as 'Molly', was born May 28, 1916 at Innisfail. Another son was born in 1918, but he died at four months.

Winter used to bring bad storms at times and many times the men got frostbitten on their rides to and



Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Kelly.

from town. Mr. Kelly cut firewood in his bush and hauled it by team the thirteen miles to Innisfail to trade it for the things the family needed. The family raised cattle, pigs and some grain.

When Molly was small, she used to dread the river hills they had to go over to reach Innisfail. They travelled with horses, either hitched to a democrat or sleigh. These hills were quite long and winding and could be very muddy, or in winter, icy. Mother had had a frightening experience on the east hill in the early days. She had been returning home from Innisfail in the buggy when it started to rain. She was driving a team with one young horse that did not like the buggy top to be put up. She had my two older brothers with her — Brian was just a wee babe — so not wanting them to get soaked with the rain, she stopped the team at the top of the hill and put the top of the buggy up. As soon as she started down the hill, the young horse pushed the other one right over the edge of the bank and they upset in the trees. Miraculously, none of them were hurt.

Our early neighbors were: the Tom Abraham family, John Bird family, Jim Lewis family, David Laird family, Tom Michiel family, Frank Sanborn family, Mark Hocken family, E. A. Dunk family, and Mr. & Mrs. Wm. Parkin. Abrahams were our closest neighbors — Mr. Abraham and father were always good friends and exchanged work back and forth for years.

Mrs. Kelly died Sept. 9, 1927 and William Kelly on Oct. 19, 1959.

Children:

Joseph Mack Freeman married Nancy Grisdale of Okotoks in 1929. They had four sons, Donald, Jack, Bruce and Allen. Joe served with the Calgary Tanks from 1941-1945. He was posted in England, Africa, Sicily, Italy, and took part in the Battle of Dieppe, rising to the rank of Mechanical Quarter Master Sergeant. After the war, Joe bought a garage at Didsbury and was accidentally killed in 1953.

Brian Robinson Kelly married Ethel Llewellyn of Innisfail in Feb. 1939. They had a son Lynn and a daughter Zoe. Ethel passed away and a few years later Brian married Mabel Michiel. They are still on the farm west of Innisfail.

Molly married Raymond Fagan of Olds in April 1934. They have three children, Kenneth, Brian, and Margaret. Molly started her schooling at Oklahoma school about 1923. Her first teacher was Mr. Ralph Cook. In the early thirties, she belonged to a Dramatic Club in the Oklahoma district; other members were: Maurice and Alfred Hirst and their wives, Bird boys, Lewis boys, Lil Taylor and Fred Newsham.

WILLIAM H. KEMP by Margaret Wilson

William Hazelwood Kemp was born in County Carleton, near Ottawa, on March 14, 1860. Both his father and mother were of Canadian birth. Until he was 12 years of age, he attended the local public school, and after that he assisted on his father's farm during the summer months and attended school during the winter until he was 17. He then spent two years working for his father on the farm and on April 22, 1879 he went to Winnipeg working on a farm in that area during the summer and harvesting season. In the fall he went into the woods near Kenora, Ont., working for the C.P.R. until spring, cutting and taking out ties. In the spring he took a farm on shares putting all his savings into the enterprise, but was unable to make it pay.

His next experience was as a freighter from Winnipeg to Edmonton. Leaving Winnipeg on May 20, 1881, with five other men, shepherding 32 oxen and 32 Red River carts, their ox-propelled convoy made such slow progress that the men travelled most of the way on foot. When they arrived at Edmonton on Sept. 12, 1881, Bill Kemp had worn out his shoes and was travelling barefoot. He took employment in a saw-mill until Dec. 25th when he went up the Saskatchewan River to work in a lumber camp until Sept. 20, 1882.

In September of 1882, Bill Kemp and Jim and George Beatty decided to locate land at the Red Deer Crossing on which they could squat until a survey was completed and land available for homestead. They accumulated 10 or 12 head of good horses, harness, wagons, some plowing equipment, and a stock of supplies in Calgary and took up residence in a pole shack at the crossing in December. With less funds to invest than the Beattys, Bill Kemp had not been able to purchase horses, but bought a huge team of oxen in Edmonton and favoured by an open winter, he did some plowing with the ox team in February, 1883, which was the first sod to be broken up between Calgary and Edmonton. During the winter log barns were built and in the spring of 1883, sufficient land was brought under cultivation to put in a garden and a small patch of oats.

Supplies were got from Calgary, a trip usually taking five days. At that time there was only one stopping place en route, the one operated by Sam Scarlett on Rosebud Creek. In the spring of either 1884 or 1885, Bill Kemp sowed five acres to wheat, broadcasting the seed by hand, and in the fall cutting the crop with a scythe, binding the sheaves with oat straw, and threshing them with a flail. To demonstrate what the country would produce, he sent a sam-

ple to his father, who was then living in Chicago, and he entered it in the World's Fair there — it won first prize.

The outbreak of the North West Rebellion found Bill Kemp on April 8, 1885 riding with Ray Gaetz as the advance guard of the party of settlers from Red Deer and the crossing en route to Calgary, where they had been instructed to assemble. After returning to the crossing, buildings were erected on his homestead and the log barn, close to the Blackfoot trail, was still standing a few years ago. Bill was a good man with horses; he obtained his first team from one of the few horse ranches in southern Alberta, and although they were unbroken bronchos and pretty wild, in his capable hands they were soon brought into line.

When the first Red Deer school district was formed in 1886, Bill Kemp, together with Rev. Dr. Leonard Gaetz and George Wilbert Smith comprised the school board.

Bill Kemp continued to farm his homestead until 1892 when he moved into Innisfail and established a livery business, to which draying was added in 1893.

In 1895 he was married to Katy Jane Lundy, who was born in Morden, Man. on Jan. 7, 1877. In 1899 he further diversified his business interests by the addition of an implement business, but rapid expansion in that line required too much of his attention, and soon after he disposed of the draying business, and in 1906 he sold the livery business.

For two years he served on the town council and he became one of the town's most respected citizens. By 1912, a desire to again go farming resulted in the sale of the implement business and moving onto the N 1/2 29-35-28-4 near Innisfail, which he farmed for the balance of his life. He died on Jan. 1, 1920 at the age of 60 and is buried in the Innisfail cemetery. His wife, Katy, died in January, 1968, also buried in Innisfail. Bill and Katy had five sons and one daughter, Edith Lillian, born in 1905, died in infancy.

Dr. E. G. Kemp, the eldest son, was born in 1898, married Ellen McWhinnie, and they were the parents of three sons. Dr. Kemp died in Vancouver in 1953 and he is buried in a Vancouver cemetery.

L.L. Kemp, who was born on Aug. 1, 1900, married Grace MacDonald and they had a family of two sons and two daughters. Mr. L. Kemp died in 1955 and he is buried in the Innisfail Cemetery.



W. H. Kemp's livery barn in Innisfail.

W. H. Kemp, Jr., was born on Jan. 1, 1902, married Mary Iona Lyons, and they have a family of three boys and three girls.

G. A. Kemp, who was born on Nov. 22, 1916, married Phyllis McCullum, and they are the parents of two daughters.

J. C. Kemp, who was born on March 24, 1909, married Louise Beth Clarke, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Clarke of Red Deer. They had two boys and two girls. Jack worked on various farms and in the early twenties worked as a mechanic with his brother Lynnford in Innisfail. Later he had a truck and did custom work until moving to Red Deer.

Jack and Betty moved to Red Deer in 1932, and Jack did custom work digging basements, and hauling coal to the Army Camp in the early '40's. In the fall of 1943 they moved the family to their farm west of Innisfail and began general farming in an area with little land cleared and no buildings. "Straw" housing protected the animals that first winter. The way to school was a long one cross-country for their four youngsters. Clearing of the land was gradually accomplished, and buildings added as was feasible. Registered Herefords supplemented the basic farm livestock, plus unusual varieties such as guinea fowl and later guinea pigs.

Ten years later, upon the marriage of their son Jerry to Rita Archibald of Lacombe, the decision to change into dairying was made to help support two families, although it was not for some time that the production of other livestock and fowl was phased out. Yearly additions to existing buildings or new establishments led to the expansion of the herd to its present size. Grade cows were completely replaced by purebred Holsteins in the mid-sixties. Herd replacements are fed out (heifers), but most bull calves are sold day old. The dairy set-up is completely modern and able to house, feed and water the milking stock throughout the winter months. All feed and most seed is home-grown.

Upon Jack's passing in January 1970 in his 60th year, the two sons, Jerry and Bob have continued farming with their mother and soon will be joined by a grandson. Bob lives with his mother, Betty. Jerry and Rita, with their six children, have their own house on the family farm. The older girls are competent dairymaids; a dairyman and general farm help are employed year round, plus occasional help.

Jack and Betty's two daughters, Mrs. C. Hoffman (Peg) and Mrs. W.L. Hodges (Jackie) are living in the Innisfail area.

MR. & MRS. WESLEY KENNINGS by Mrs. Jack McAllister

In 1891 Mr. Wesley Kennings of Winslow, Buckinghamshire, England arrived in this district and filed on a homestead directly south and west of the Thos. Green farm. He had been a harness maker in the old country, but wished to live a more outdoor life. He was born in 1865 and was the eldest of a family of five. He was the only one of his family to come to Canada. He first went to British Columbia.

April 12, 1894 he and Miss Rhoda Green were united in marriage by the Rev. H.B. Brashier, rector of St. Mark's Anglican Church, Innisfail. Miss Duncan of Little Red Deer and Miss Chambers of Penhold were the maids of honor.

With the exception of one year spent in B.C. they spent their lives on the homestead. Mr. Kennings served as secretary-treasurer of the Westholm school district from its founding in 1905 until retiring in 1948. He was interested in amateur photography, finishing his own pictures. Both he and his wife were fond of reading. Mrs. Kennings was organist for church services held in the Westholm school for nearly 40 years. They have five children: Thomas, Wesley born 1895, Harry George born 1898, Winnifred born 1900, Frederick born 1902 and Marjorie Doris born 1908.

Harry, Fred and Marjorie still reside on the original homestead. Winnifred was married in 1923 to J.W. McAllister and went to live in the Antler Hill district. Tom went overseas with the Canadian Expeditionary Force in 1918 and upon his return in 1919 bought a farm near where he still resides.

Mr. Kennings passed away on July 31, 1954 and Mrs. Kennings on Nov. 17, 1960. They were laid to rest in the Innisfail cemetery.

J.G. KENT AND HARRY KENT by Ila Center

J.G. Kent, my Dad, and Harry, my brother, came West in 1910 from Delhi, Ontario. They brought a carload of settlers' effects and it took them three weeks to make the trip.

Gladys (Mrs. Archie Davidson — now deceased) and I came in 1911. We attended Little Red Deer School. Another sister, Marjorie, (Mrs. R.W. Lee) stayed in Delhi.

Dad and Harry built a shack for the stock putting a thin partition between that and their living quarters. They lived in this for a year until the home was built.

Times were tough and many a time Dad was ready to give up and go back to Ontario. Neighbors were few and far between. The Davidsons' and Robinsons' seemed to be the closest at first.

WILLIAM KINSELLA by Mrs. Annie Kinsella

William Kinsella (Bill) was born of Irish parents at Franktown, Ontario in 1901. He was raised on a farm and in 1921 came West on a harvest excursion. He lived with relatives in the Mayton and Knee Hill Valley districts and also with Mr. & Mrs. Nels Stringer at Knee Hill who gave him a second home in the West. He worked for his cousins Bill & John Flinn on a water-well drill and eventually bought his own machine around 1925. He became a very well known driller in the Olds and Innisfail regions.

It was in 1929 that we were married and bought a bush farm at Knee Hill which he cleared and cultivated for farm land. At the same time he was drilling wells and in the 1930's often was paid with a cow or horse. This actually started the herd of cattle that we raised throughout the years. Some cows we sold at market for as low as 3c lb.

Bill bought a large tractor and separator and did custom threshing in the fall. A neighbor, Roy Saun-

ders, became a partner in this and they built a cook car and bunkhouse. This was quite a sight to see moving down the road — tractor separator, water tank, bunkhouse, cook car with a cow plodding behind it, then 10 or 12 teams with bundle racks. It was while we were living here that four sons were born: Ronnie, Harold, Lloyd and Ted.

On the retirement of my Dad, Mr. Clifford, in 1936 we bought and moved to his farm near Innisfail. Here another son and daughter — Earl and Wilma were born.

When W.W.II came there were so many young men gone, Bill, like most farmers did the work of three men to meet the demand for more and more production. Soon tractors replaced the six or eight horse teams for farming the land and with the coming of combines, threshing became a thing of the past. Electricity came to many farms and plumbing in homes made life so easy.

Neighbors were Stangness's, Harry Low and Mr. & Mrs. Syd Bateman and son Jack. Jack joined the airforce in the war and his plane exploded in mid air over the Strait of Georgia, B.C. Crew and all were lost in its' depths. His loss was deeply felt by all of us.

Bill resumed well drilling which he had quit during the war. He loved people and enjoyed meeting the many he did encounter in this work. The children attended school in Innisfail and as the boys finished school they took up various jobs. Lloyd and Ted became drillers with their Dad and with this combination, they became known as dependable drillers from Peace River to as far south as the border and west to Golden B.C. Ronnie stayed on the farm and now lives there with his wife Betty and family. Harold and his wife Irene live on their farm in the Sundre district. Lloyd married Phyllis — and lived on a farm near home. He was killed in a motor accident in 1963. Ted and Wilma married a sister and brother Alice and Ernie Walz from Knee Hill Valley. They both have farms near Innisfail. Earl, a graduate from the University of Alberta in Education, lives on a farm and teaches in Innisfail. Earls' wife Daryl is a registered nurse.



William Kinsella Family. Back row, L. to R.: Lloyd, Ted, Ronnie, Harold, Earl. Front row: Wilma, Bill Kinsella, Mrs. Annie Kinsella.

Bill died suddenly in 1963 and was followed only six months later by Lloyd. Both are interred in the Innisfail Cemetery.

The greatest tribute to Bill's memory was the reciting of the poem "Abou Ben Adhem" by the minister at the funeral service. I have been retired and living in Innisfail for some time.

GEORGE H. KIRKHAM by his son, Harry Kirkham

Geo. H. Kirkham, born 1863 in Perth, Ontario, married Mary Jane Timms in 1888. He came to Innisfail in 1898 by settler's train, along with his wife and children and several friends. George homesteaded where the Reg Bowe property is now. In 1902 he returned to Ontario; then later took up farming 13 miles east of Innisfail as well as working part-time in lumber mills, on the railroad, and for Bill Kemp's livery barn (where the Royal Bank is today.) Those were wet years; Dad often told us that where main street is today, it was so muddy it was almost impossible for a horse to walk and when a train passed over the rails, the ties would disappear it was so wet. Neighbors near their farm were Laydens, Potters, Calverts, Guards, and Whealons. George H. Kirkham died in 1951, predeceased by his wife Mary in 1934. Their children were:

Thomas Kirkham, born 1890; married Lily Ferguson; deceased.

Joe Kirkham, born 1892; married Estella Guard. He died in 1969.

John Kirkham, born 1898; killed in WWI.

George Kirkham, married Lucille Guard; deceased in 1924.

Mary Kirkham, born 1904; married Bernard John Hibbert.

Myrtena Kirkham, born 1906; married Dwight Branson; died 1954.

Harry Kirkham, born 1911; married Ruth Daw. Our first neighbors when we were on the farm in the Calder district were Laydens, Potters, Calverts, Guards, and Whealons. Harry remembers: — that his best teachers at the Calder School were Miss Alma and Miss Adelaide Whealon. — In the winters the snow often was deep enough to cover the fences. Harry took over the farm in 1931. In 1942 he retired to Innisfail. Harry was a certified mechanic for 32 years. He worked for Ken Rimington in Innisfail and for 12 years as a Supervisor at the Bowden Institution.

THE GEORGE S. KIRKHAM STORY by Fleet Kirkham

Letters from brother-in-law William Scott, who came in 1899, telling of the good land, ready for working without having to cut trees or pick stones, was the reason that Geo. S. Kirkham came to Innisfail in 1900. He travelled from Ontario with his wife Matilda and seven children: Elizabeth, Thomas, George, Hannah, William, Pearl, and Fleetwood. Elizabeth had just married Thomas Marks, and the trip served as their honeymoon. (Years later when Fleetwood married, he told his wife they didn't need a honeymoon because he'd already been on one.)

They arrived in Innisfail on Easter Sunday 1900, after six days on a settler's train. A wreck on the track near Winnipeg delayed them one day. Their household effects and livestock came later by freight. George S. was born in 1852 and died in 1938; the S. doesn't stand for anything — he just added it when he got to Innisfail because George H. Kirkham here was his cousin.

George did carpenter work in Innisfail; his first job — building a house for his family. They lived in the Murray Hotel until it was ready. He helped build the wooden sidewalks for the town. Fleet, like all small boys, delighted in 'assisting' his Dad and while the sidewalks were being built, he was busy with hammer and nails. One day, while he was sitting on the sidewalk hammering, Guy Rodgers nailed Fleet's jacket to the sidewalk with Fleet in it. George S. Kirkham was a farmer in Ontario, so he bought a farm east of Innisfail (part of the Schroeder farm) which his boys worked on for awhile. Farming didn't appeal much to Tom and George — they had had enough in Ontario — so they sold the farm and did carpenter work with their Dad. Many of their buildings still stand in the town today.



The George S. Kirkham Family. Back row: Bill, Elizabeth, Tom, Hannah, Geordie; front row: Fleet, Lena, George Sr., Matilda and Pearl.

George, with sons Tom and George, along with Bill Pendergast, Tom Marks and Tom White (all being good Orangemen), started a fife and drum band. Their many early morning practices before the 12th of July celebrations were not too welcome by those folks who liked their late morning nap. George also played drums in the Archibald and Lang Bagpipe Band.

For awhile George S. ran a boarding house (Revere House) charging 25c a meal. (One of the boarders was Bill Jensen, the honeymooner). He sold it to Bill Arnell who had it when it burnt in November 22, 1911. William just got out before the fire. They were afraid the stable behind the house would burn, and went out barefooted in the snow to move the horses. It didn't, but the tops of the bake shop owned by Tom White and the Kirkham house burnt partly. They had been two-story, so they made them into one story after the fire.

George S. Kirkham served on the School Board for years and was on the Innisfail Council for 14 years.

Children:

Tom Kirkham married Julia Scholin and settled in Innisfail.

Geordie married an English nurse. They lived in Innisfail for a short time and lived in Calgary before making their home in Seattle, Wash. One morning, when Geordie was still living home, he told his mother that he was very short of money and seemed quite worried about it. But when he came home at noon, he had got himself a new pair of shoes. His mother said, "Geordie, I thought you were hard up." Geordie said, "Mother, there is no sense in being poor and looking poor."

Hannah married Thomas White in 1901. He was a friend and neighbor in Ontario and when the family left for the West, Tom said, "Save Hannah for me." So the next summer, he came and they were married. Hannah passed away in 1910 at age 24.

William married Beatrice Sills. They lived in Calgary and Drumheller. They had one daughter. Bill died in 1935.

Pearl married Larry Gould, lived in Calgary and Vancouver. Pearl passed away in 1971. Her daughter, Margaret Collins, lives in Vancouver.

Lena, born in Innisfail in 1905, married Charles MacAvoy. They have one son Robert who lives in Seattle. Lena has been completely blind for the past ten years. She plays piano, types her letters and poems. The Blind Institute gave her typing lessons, as she had never used a typewriter when she could see. She lives in Vancouver.

Fleetwood 'Fleet' was born in October, 1895. When he was wanted home, his mother would stand at the door and yell, "Fleet---wood". The other kids thought his name was Fleet and that she wanted wood! He went to the first school in Innisfail held in the Murray Hotel with Miss Constantine as teacher. The only one of his classmates left is Margaret Wilson. His favourite teacher was Miss York. He quit school when he was 14 and went to work at the brickyard hauling the forms. This was heavy work he didn't much care for, so he changed jobs and worked for G.W. West, and then driving horses for the livery stable. He helped his Dad with carpentering on the Fairgrounds and worked in a meat market until in 1913 he took up barbering. When he started to work in the Barber shop for Bob Sharp and Alex Munro, he had a sore finger injured playing baseball. He didn't let on even though it was hard to use the scissors and do a good job.

Fleet remembers when he, Jack and Frank West, were trying to see if a cat had nine lives. They began by dropping Membry's cat in the well, but it kept climbing out, so they tried hanging it.

School memories — he remembers when Arthur Arnold swore and the teacher would wash his mouth out with soap. Freddie George, Babe Lauder, Flannigans, Shepherd Barwis, 'Dooley' Barwis, Gregg Bryan, and Orlie Foster were classmates. In those days the people in and around town with cows let them run loose. One day during recess, Fleet slipped

and fell where the cows had been and couldn't go back to school. He went home to change his clothes.

As kids, Charlie Maynard, Jack West, and Fleet, put on 'circuses' in the Wests' barn. Charlie was the snake charmer.

Harold Rankin caught the boys swimming in Moore's slough in the raw, and took their picture. Rankin's lived in the house that later was the first hospital.

Silent Films — Jack West and Fleet stood behind the curtains and shot cap guns when there were gun-fights in the movie; Fleet played the player piano and Mary Shanks sang. Johnson, who ran the theatre, was good to kids.

Although the family was Methodist, Fleet sang in the Anglican Choir. The family were ardent Orangemen, but Fleet only got the first degree in the Orange Lodge and then quit because he had too many Catholic friends to believe in it.

He had no music lessons, but he played in the orchestra for Boodie, with Tedeschini's Band, and in the Kirkham orchestra for 4 to 5 years with Jim Hopkins, Murray Fox, Bruce Dodd, Ron Weedon, and Bud Kirkham. Practices were held in Fleet's home.

He bought his first suit from Gilmour & Pitts, in 1913, custom made, with belted coat and pegtop pants with narrow legs — he had trouble putting them on over his feet.

He can remember soaking brooms in coal oil and lighting them for torch light parades during elections.

Social life — Fleet remembers outings with Elmer Kemp, "Beef" (Aubrey) Fumerton, Pete Johnson, and his sister Agnes. — There were some free calls in 1913-14 when his pal Orlie Foster was running the telephone office at night. When Bill Corish started a shorthand and typewriting course at the school, Foster and Fleet took the course — so did the Kitley girls. 'Kansas' (E.F. Ludlam) was running a poker den with free stew. Fleet wouldn't eat his stew one night because Kansas was going to the toilet with one hand while stirring stew with the other.

Fire Brigade — Fleet was a member for many years. Pete Johnson and Fleet, as kids, played near the fire equipment. One day during fire practice at the A.E. Keast house, Fleet was sent up the ladder with an axe and told to break the window; but he couldn't reach it. Bill Wilson took over to show him how, took a swing, and the axe slipped out of his hand crashing through the window into the room.

Sports — Fleet liked whatever sport was in season. As a boy, he first skated on Dodd's Lake. The first pair of skates he had were brought from England and given to him by Mrs. McCormick (Mrs. Paddy Doyle's Mother). They were made of a steel blade set in solid wood and were strapped around the toe of the boot and a 3/4 inch screw went into the boot heel. He managed baseball for many years. In 1927 the Innisfail team played the final game at Innisfail and won the Alberta Championship. He started curling in 1913 and has curled every year since. He started with Jack Gilmore and Pete Johnson, and later curled with

Wagner and Freeman. He played hockey with Dr. Wagner. When Dr. Wagner came back from the war and had a set of golf clubs, he took Fleet out and showed him how to use them — did the same with others in town, sometimes taking three or four different people out the same day one after another. This way he got a lot interested. He got permission from Jack Dodd to clear out some brush and started the golf course. Fleet ended up a member of the 'hole-in-one' club.

Esther Latimer was born Dec. 22, 1896 at Gordon Lake, Ontario, and came from Winnipeg on Hallowe'en night to Edmonton in 1908. She took a business course in Edmonton and when her brother-in-law went to war, she came to Innisfail in Oct. 1915 to keep her sister, Mrs. Noonan, company. She worked for Mr. Haberland (he later drowned) in the morning and F.M. Oldham in the afternoon. Oldham was the perfect gentleman, kind and considerate, — a onetime mayor of Innisfail. Fleet says if he had his life to live over again, he would get married sooner. He gave Esther a twin diamond engagement ring during a date at the movies. It was too big for her finger and dropped off. Fleet was crawling around lighting matches looking for it. They were married in Calgary on July 5, 1917. Barbara was born in 1918; Travis in 1925, and Wanda in 1930. When Barbara was a baby of 5 months, she got her first tooth — Esther predicted there was going to be a fire — that night the Post Office burnt down.

Fleet was a member of Oddfellows and Elks; Mayor and Councillor. He retired from barbering in 1964.

THOMAS J. KIRKHAM by Florence Ross

My father was first a baker in Innisfail and later did carpenter work and bricklaying. He married Julia Scholin in Innisfail on Jan. 18, 1905. My mother came here from Leduc in 1903 and worked as a waitress in the Alberta Hotel. (Mr. Lundy owned it then.)

The most tragic thing I remember was the fire that burned the bake shop, the rooming house owned by my Grandfather, and our house. There were three lives lost in the fire.

There were four children in our family:

Edna Florence — married R. W. Ross. Roy is now retired, but for 39 years was in charge of the Innisfail Fire Department. This has been kept in the family because my father was Fire Chief before Roy. I started in the clothing — yard goods business as a clerk for Mr. Hodge in the 'Coliseum' in 1919 and remained with this store when it was sold to M.H. Smith and later to Samuel Bros. with Roy Schloss as manager. In 1945 I left to open my own shop, buying Miss Murphy's novelty store, (located where the Nurcombe Barber Shop now is), starting with about \$200 worth of merchandise and the shelves filled up with empty boxes. (Quotas for merchandise were 'frozen' during the war years.) About 1948 I moved into the present 'Quality Shoppe' building and in 1954 opened a second store in Bowden. This was damaged in the propane explosion in August 1954, so stock

was sold and I had a yard goods store in Red Deer for five years. My sister Doris had worked with me in Innisfail and managed the Red Deer one until her marriage. In 1961 the Red Deer store was closed and I again opened one in Bowden; and in 1962 the second store (ready-to-wear) was opened in Innisfail.

William L. Kirkham married Edith Eagleson; they live in Innisfail; one daughter, Myrna.

George Edward 'Bud' Kirkham married Alma Bradshaw; they live in Kamloops, B.C.; one son Gary.

Doris Lovone Kirkham married Robert Brown; they live in Sylvan Lake; three daughters Wendy, Julie, and Denise.

Shirley Viola — deceased Jan. 17, 1964.

My father died on Mar. 31, 1955 and is buried in Innisfail. My mother is living in Innisfail and is 'next door neighbour' to Roy and me.

EARLY RECOLLECTIONS OF MY CHILDHOOD DAYS IN INNISFAIL by Lena (Kirkham) MacAvoy

A number of times during the summer a Merry-go-round came to Innisfail. On Saturday all those who were there by two o'clock got a free ride. The memory of the music it played stayed with us for a long time.

Many years a circus would come to town, usually in June. We children loved their parades. The circus band had music which you would never hear elsewhere. There was always a free attraction outside the tents, which was a frightened little dog, which had to climb a ladder, then had to jump into a basket.

The fun we had with the parrot owned by the G.W. West family. During the summer it would be out on the lawn. Its' name was Polly and she had quite a vocabulary and such a hearty laugh. When you could hear her and not see her it was hard to realize that it was not a "person". Mrs. West, in her kindly manner, would at times invite me into her home and let me play her player piano. What a thrill that was! That was the start of hoping I would have one some day. Now our grandchildren get so much enjoyment out of ours. They were scarce in those days. I often think of that first one I played.

In the early days, before Funeral Parlors came into existence, funerals were conducted from the different churches. Those that had a bell, would start tolling a short time before the funeral service was to start. It was quite mournful...and there was no mistaking what it meant.

Events that usually brought people out were band practice during the summer in the little band stand, fire practice and fires. Whenever the bell on the fire hall rang the siren on the old electric light plant screamed to let the fire-men know there was a fire. It would send shivers down the spine.

Since coming to Vancouver in 1942, I rarely went to Town, that I didn't stop at Spencer's and later at Eatons, to say "Hello" to Ossie Fawdry. He always had a cheery word and a smile. Any time we had a chance to talk, it was like a bit of Innisfail, both of us having spent so many years there.

(Mrs. MacAvoy has been blind for ten years.)

KIRKUP STORY by Fred Pollock

Mr. Kirkup and his daughter Janey were our closest neighbors when we arrived in the district from Innisfail in 1906. He had been a sheep-herder in Scotland prior to coming to Canada. He rented his farm land and milked four cows for a living. To see him, was to see a large framed man with a beard. When he got excited he always said "Shucks", and so was known to the neighbors as "Mr. Shucks". The times when he didn't feel like doing something, he would say "Wait and see what the morrow brings forth". His daughter taught Sunday School and they boarded the school teachers of Pleasant Valley.

I recall when Mr. Kirkup wasn't doing chores, he would sit with his feet in the oven on a little board. It was in 1918 that he sold his farm to Mr. Hector Cameron and moved to Mission City, B.C. In a years' time Mr. Cameron sold the place to my Dad, Arthur Pollock.

MR. & MRS. OTTO KRAUSE & FAMILY by Emma Sheils & Evelyn Krause

Otto Krause was born in Dogene, Germany in 1871. When he was seventeen years of age he went to Braemerhoffen, boarded a freighter of mixed cargo and passengers of many nationalities, to join his sister and seek a life of freedom in America. After three weeks of rough, stormy, lonely days he reached New York. He continued his journey to Fergus Falls, Minn. Here he worked at different tasks. He became a steam engineer, and a brewmaster. He met Anna Pauline Hansel at Elizabeth, Minn. and they were married in 1893.

Glowing accounts of the N.W.T. near Poplar Grove were received, so in May 1900, Otto and Anna Krause with their four sons, Frank, August, William and Otto left their home at Barnsville, Minn. They went by team and wagon to Portal. Here they boarded a train for Winnipeg, Regina and Calgary. The next day, northward bound they arrived in Innisfail. No one met them and they were strangers in a strange land. However, Mr. Duncan Mather who had homesteaded a few miles from Grandpa Hansel kindly offered to take them and their meagre possessions to their destination. Wet, cold and tired they arrived at the Mather home late at night. They were welcomed by Mrs. Mather who tried to make them comfortable for the night. Next day they were taken by wagon to the home of Mothers' father, Ernest Hansel. Surprised! He didn't know they were coming.

Into a log building they moved. Grandpa tried to make them comfortable. The boys ran hither and thither seeking new adventures but for Mother it must have been very lonely. They lived here for more than a year. Dad homesteaded two miles south and with Grandpa's help erected a log cabin, cleared a garden spot and busy making improvements. Dad and his boys cleared and broke land, built sheds, fences. They broke land with a one bottom walking plow using horses and oxen. Seeding was done by broadcasting the grain by hand, covering it with brush



Built by Otto Krause in 1902.

which was used in place of harrows. Grain was cut by cradle scythe and hand tied into bundles. Often when dry, the bundles were placed on a blanket and pounded, the seed was gathered, put through the wind and then ground into flour and cereal. The hours were long, the toil was tedious, but the future always beckoned.

In the threshing season Dad was the steam engineer. This he did for 30 years. His record as road builder and road boss is unsurpassed as he labored for 42 years in this capacity.

Mothers' lot was hard. She carried water, washed clothes on washboards, sewed, baked, cooked, gathered berries, preserved, seeded and tended a big garden, raised and cared for chickens, milked, churned, made cheese, cared for her large family and did other innumerable jobs. She was always ready to help others in time of stress and sickness.

We lived twelve miles from Innisfail. Our trading was done at G.W. West Store. Butter and eggs were exchanged for groceries. Mr. West tided many a man over the difficult time of transition.

We were a family of twelve. Esther and George died in infancy. Brother Bill passed away in 1960 age 63 and Brother Ed in 1972 at the age of 67.

We who remain range in age from 60 to 79 years. Frank and August (Calgary): Otto and Ernie, Innisfail: Emma (Mrs. Horatio Sheils) Olds: Laura (Mrs. Frank Bell) Alberne, B.C.: Walter, Red Deer; Lillian (Mrs. William Hurl) Calgary.

August, our bachelor brother, served in the U.S. Army as a horse shoer and farrier in the first world war.

Nisbet School was our place of learning. It was 2-1/2 miles from our home. The first teachers were Mr. Baycroft, Misses E. Perrin, Minnie Gummer, Ellen



Otto Krause Family. Back row: Frank, William, Emma, Otto, August, Ernie, Laura; front row: Mrs. Anna Krause, Edward, Lillian, Walter, Otto Krause Sr.

Kyle and others. Recreation consisted of dancing, house parties, sing songs, cards, parlor games ball playing and swimming in the creeks and sloughs.

I remember the prairie fires and blizzards against which the pioneers battled. A wisp of smoke! Settlers alerted! Galloping horses, dragging stone boats and water barrels. Quick plowing of fire guards. Mothers and fathers beating out the flames with wet gunny sacks. Save the granary! There goes another hay stack! So it went as the red menace raced through the prairie wool. Out of these episodes emerged strong bonds co-operation and loyalty.

Mother and Dad Krause, like other pioneers, faced unknown privation and hardships, but through thrift, resourcefulness, ingenuity unselfishness and a bright futuristic outlook, conquered, leaving for us a rich heritage and a foundation for our present mode of life.

Mother, Anna Krause, passed away in Innisfail Jan. 3, 1953 at the age of 77 yrs. Father, Otto Krause, spent his last ten years in Calgary with his daughter Lillian. He died in Calgary Aug. 25, 1963 at the age of 93 years. Both are interred in the Innisfail Cemetery.

The families of Krauses' are as follows:

Frank Krause and his wife Myrtle had 5 children: Anna, Ardith, Ruby, Donovan, Arnetta.

William married Ella Hawkins and had 10 children: Ruth, Aileen, Dorothy, Alvin, George, Albert, Arthur, Beatrice, Myrtle and Dolleen.

Otto Krause married Mabel White and they had 5 children: Doreen, Norval, Lois, Marvin and Stanley. Otto later with his wife Phyllis had 3 children: Kiever, Sandra and Terry.

Ernie married Ivy Fielding and they had 3 children: Norman, Ralph and Lyle.

Emma married Horatio Sheils and they have 2 children: Edward and Grace.

Ed married Evelyn Hoag and they have 6 children: Velma, Kenneth, Betty, Helen, Calvin and James.

Laura married Frank Ball and they have 2 children: Frank and Verna.

Walter and his wife Gloss had two children Lorraine and Roger. Walter married again and he and wife Bernie had 3 children: Vernon, Aron and Tamer.

Lillian married Bill Hurl and they have one daughter Judy.

August remained single.

THE KREMER STORY by Kenneth Kremer

August Kremer, my grandfather, was born in Germany in 1854. He was the only boy among five sisters. Determined to keep her only son from being drafted into the army at an early age, his mother dressed him as a girl to get him out of the country and emigrated to Walkerton, Ontario. Ties with all relatives and friends in Germany were cut and we, therefore, have no Kremer family history prior to this.

My grandfather married in Walkerton and his three sons, Norman, David and Alexander, were born

there. Later they moved to Elmwood, Ontario where the boys went to school.

August Kremer brought his wife and family to Innisfail in 1894. The trip was made in a boxcar filled with settlers effects and it was hooked into a freight train. If I remember correctly, it was told to me that the trip took about fourteen days. I believe the reason Innisfail was chosen was because a number of others from Bruce County had come to the area, and more were to follow.

Having learned the blacksmith trade in Ontario, my grandfather set up shop and continued his trade with the help of Norman and David. Alexander, or "Sandy" as he was known, was never very robust and could not stand the heavy work. He died of TB at the age of twenty-four. About this time, someone unremembered, and for some unknown reason, gave David the nickname "Dick" and it stuck with him for the rest of his life.

My maternal grandfather, Joseph Jacobs, brought his wife and family of eight children from Perth, Ontario, to Innisfail in another group and homesteaded in the Horseshoe Lake District, in 1900. Two sons, Harold and Norman in Red Deer, and two daughters, Mrs. Edna Law, Victoria, and Mrs. Iva Lamb, Eugene Oregon, are still living.

Mabel Jacobs, when a young girl, came into town and worked as a maid for Mr. & Mrs. Jesse Stewart. They lived in an English style cottage amid large trees on the corner of Main Street and Murray Avenue. Later on I was to take music lessons from their daughter Frances. Mabel Jacobs and Dick Kremer met while she was with the Stewarts.

As more and more people came into the district, August Kremer and his sons saw the need of brick for construction (each settler building a permanent home required at least one thousand bricks to build a chimney) so they started a brickyard and the Innisfail Brick and Tile Co. came into being. This was between 1900 and 1905.

The first bricks produced were moulded, six at a time, by hand tamping the clay into moulds and then turning it out to dry. This slow process was soon replaced with an extrusion machine. Later an automatic cutting machine was installed making it possible to produce up to 10,000 bricks per day. The market for brick covered a large part of Alberta and Saskatchewan. All out-of-town delivery was made by



Bricks and more bricks. Joe Potter on the right.



The Brickyard Gang: Top row, L. to R.: Becarte, Roger Benton, Wallace Biggs, Becarte, Fred Watkins, August Kremer; Front row: Virgil Biggs, ?, Varty, Bennett, Geo. Kirkham, Bill Wade, Martin Morigeau, Bill Morison.

railway, as there were few roads and no trucks at that time. Locally, all the early brick houses and commercial buildings in Innisfail were built of Kremer brick. The price was from \$10.00 to \$12.00 per thousand.

Dick Kremer married Mabel Jacobs, January 3, 1906. They first lived in one of the twin brick houses on Central Avenue. I was born in 1908; Lois (Mrs. J.G. Robertson, Calgary) was born in 1909; and Ora (Mrs. Allan Jones, Victoria) was born much later in 1924. Of the three, only Ora was blessed with children, four girls and one boy. Therefore, I am the last "Kremer" in our branch of the family.

In 1909 grandmother Kremer died in her sleep. Norman left the family firm and went to San Francisco, where he went back to his metal working trade in the shipyards. He married and had three sons, Allan, and twins Gordon and Dolan. Mrs. Kremer did not survive the birth of the twins. In order to ease a difficult task, Norman gave Dolan for adoption. The other boys always kept in touch with him and they are all still living in the United States. Norman later remarried and stayed in the San Francisco area until he died.

With the beginning of the Great War in 1914, all construction stopped. Most of the workmen enlisted in the army and the brickyard was closed down. My grandfather Kremer, who had remarried after the death of his first wife, retired. He became ill and died in 1917. The second Mrs. Kremer lived alone in Innisfail until she died. She is buried in Burnsland cemetery in Calgary.

By the time the war ended in 1918, large brick plants in Edmonton and Redcliff made it



Innisfail Brick Yard.

uneconomical to re-open a small plant. The machinery was sold, the buildings dismantled and that was the end of Innisfail's first payroll industry. Today, only the brick house remains across the road from the cemetery.

Automobiles had begun to appear quite some time before this. I believe the first was a 1902 Holzman owned by Mr. G.T. Lundy. I vaguely remember seeing it on the street once. I know it had high buggy wheels, a tiller for steering and each rear wheel was driven by a braided leather belt. The first ride in a car I can remember was with Mr. G.W. West who picked me up as I walked into town. The car was a Russell, a huge touring car with brass trimmings. It was a thrill I still think of when I see an antique car.

My Dad obtained his first car, a 1912 model T Ford in 1914. The previous owner sold it cheap after running into a rock hidden in tall grass in the centre of a prairie trail. I got my first licking for getting grease on my clothes while helping Dad give the car a complete overhaul.

Mr. McCowan, manager of the Canadian Bank of Commerce, (called "Frosty" behind his back because of his seemingly stern and unbending manner), and Mr. J.B. MacMillan, a livestock dealer, had obtained the Ford franchise and built a garage adjacent to the Royal Theatre of today. They offered Dad a chance to run it and that was our start in the garage business.



Kremer's Service Station, Innisfail's first — 1927.

In addition to selling Fords for McCowan and MacMillan, Dad was also selling Gray Dort cars on his own. As their sales grew there was a disagreement, and Dad built his own garage on a vacant lot next to the original. Added to the Gray Dorts were Chevrolet and Dodge. Being a natural salesman, and knowing everyone in the country, Dad sold a great many. I remember one, a Chevrolet "Baby Grand", the first V8 made by Chevrolet in 1917.

The new operators of the original garage were Bond and Shaw. They extended their building the full length of the lot and before long sold out to Oxley, Moran, and Oxley. Mr. Bond afterward operated the butcher shop for G.W. West and Son. Bert Oxley left the business and it became Oxley and Moran. Dad's business kept growing and he too extended his building the full length of the lot. In 1920 Dad purchased the corner building which had been operated as a general store by Mr. G.A. Smith. We then moved



Dick Kremer repairing Harry deLong's racer.

from the house at the brickyard to live in the upstairs suite. It was then that half the brickyard acreage and the house were sold to grandfather Jacobs who had retired from the farm. He lived there until after grandmother Jacobs died.

In 1923, Dad bought the building and business of Oxley and Moran and both garages and began operating as one entity. He had quite progressive ideas. The mechanics, shop, and floor had to be kept clean (it was my job to do the sweeping). He had the first wrecking crane, spray painting equipment, and neon sign between Calgary and Edmonton. I remember the very cold winter night the neon sign was first turned on. The unaccustomed red glow in the sky brought people into town for miles around looking for the fire. Gray Dort cars had been discontinued by this time and Chevrolet and Dodge were also dropped. To this day that building has been the location of the Ford dealer.

Dad was a great sportsman and played early soccer and baseball. He also curled with iron rocks on a cleared area of Dodd's Lake before they had proper rocks and a covered curling rink. I have a pair of silver serviette rings that he won. They are inscribed as being presented by "G.T. Lundy, Vice President, I.C.C. for local competition, 1905". Becoming a victim of asthma, curtailed his sports activities with the exception of umpiring baseball games in the old Central Alberta Baseball League and curling. To interest new curlers, he donated the Kremer Challenge Trophy. I recall Innisfail was the permanent winner. The original trophy was burned in the Royal Hotel fire and was replaced with an identical copy.

Dad was one of the first members when the Fire Brigade was formed in 1903. He operated the old



Innisfail's first fire pump-truck, a 1929 Ford Model A.

pumping engine for many years. Originally it was hand drawn but was soon converted to the use of horses. Presently, it is in Stan Reynold's museum in Wetaskiwin. In 1929, Dad sold the town its first motorized pump truck, a Ford model A.

He served on the town council for a number of terms and also was a member of the Knights of Pythias and the Canadian Order of Foresters lodges. In 1936 Dad's health failed and the garage business was sold to Remington & Payne. From then on he turned his attention to his farm four miles south of town. He died in Innisfail in 1942. Mother died in Calgary in 1963. Grandfather, grandmother and Sandy Kremer, and Dad and Mother are all buried in the Innisfail cemetery.

Through the influence of Jack Miller, the projectionist in the Old Opera House, I became very interested and started my apprenticeship when I became eligible at the age of 18 yrs. I had my first class license four years later and my first job was at the Royal Theatre operated by Mr. Ben Shnitka when it opened in 1929. That was the year sound movies came to Edmonton and Calgary. I was offered a job in Edmonton and left the garage business for good except for two years from 1934 to 1936.

In 1934, grandfather and grandmother Jacobs celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary. The day was April 20th. They were greeted by a great many friends and relatives. Grandmother died five years later and Grandfather was almost 91 yrs. when he died.

Ethel Miller, born to Mr. W.J. Miller and adopted on the death of her mother by her uncle J.J. Miller of Huxley, and I, thought April 20th had been a good day for my grandparents, so we were quietly married in Red Deer on their 60th Anniversary day. Thirty-nine years later, we think it has been a good day for us too, even though we were to find out it was also Hitler's birthday.

Following the sale of the garage, I returned to working as a projectionist in Calgary and the southern Alberta area. With the exception of almost three years in the RCAF, I remained there until 1951.

Lois, who had been working for Mr. J.C. Calder in his drug store, entered nurses training in the Holy Cross hospital in Calgary, later graduated as class medalist. In 1951 she joined the staff of the Provincial Emergency Measures Organization and remained there until she married.

Ora, also worked in Calder's Drug store and stayed with Mother until Mother sold her Innisfail property in 1945. Later, while in Victoria visiting relatives she met Allan Jones. They were married in Calgary in 1946.

In 1951, I became a theatre inspector in the Provincial office of the Theatre Inspector and as I write this, I am just two months from retirement. We expect to remain in Edmonton.

Even though all three of us have been away from Innisfail for a long time our memories of living and growing up there are very vivid. Innisfail is unusual

in that although less than 20 miles from the city of Red Deer, it is still growing. I think perhaps it is because from the time of the first settlers, the people of the town and district always had time to care for each other. I could recite many instances of a helping hand being available when needed. There is also the quiet pride of being an Innisfailian; I know Lois and Ora, as well as myself, consider it an honor and a privilege to have had the opportunity to be born and grow up in the community.

THE LIGHTER SIDE OF THE KREMER FAMILY by Lois (Kremer) Robertson

It was very wonderful for me to be born and to grow up in the Town of Innisfail. It is very doubtful if the children of today could imagine what "school days" were like then.

I will just list a few.

My brother Ken was not allowed to go to school and had to wait until I was old enough to attend before he could start. The idea was that he acted as guard because it was a long walk from our home at the brick yard to the red brick school on the east side of town. Even the 25 below weather didn't stop our daily walk to school. In those days the school was equipped with double seats and Ken was quite humiliated when he ended up having to sit with his "sister".

We had a St. Bernard dog called Barney, and one day he followed me to school and at the time I was in grade two. The teacher was talking to me at her desk when the dog bounded in jumping and knocking me down. After I got the dog out, the Principal, Mr. Main, sent for me, and it was a knee shaking second grader that appeared at the Principal's office. Expecting a severe reprimand over the dog being in the school I was a bit stunned and relieved when he asked if I and "Barney" would play the role of Little Orphan Annie in a forthcoming school play. I was fortunate enough to contact the measles, so was unable to "act."

I learned the hard way never to play on a ball team as catcher. There were no face masks, pads etc. so at one time was on the receiving end of a bat on the mouth. It was better to be the pitcher!

I was on the basketball team, but was a dead loss to the other players. Being only about 5 feet tall, more time was spent being bumped out of the court than was spent in it.

People in those days thought that long hair was the "in" thing. It took me until I was in grade nine to talk my Dad into allowed me to get it cut. When I arrived at the barber shop of Mr. Fleet Kirkham and Mr. Munro, they told me that before they would cut my hair off I would have to produce a note from my Dad!

My sister Ora had arrived by now and we loved her very much. I was sent to the U of A to take pharmacy following which I worked for Mr. John Calder for eight years. I also sang in the Presbyterian Choir under the leadership of Mrs. John Calder. Then, I must remember Dr. C.J. Greene and family. He was like a second father to me after my Dad passed away. There

are two other men whom I must remember with fond memories — Mr. Carl Sick and Mr. Harry Haddersly.

It is the greatest gift one receives when living in a nice town like Innisfail.

FRANCIS (FRANK) LAING by Mrs. Doug McGillivray (Mary Laing)

My father, Francis Laing, was born in Aberdeenshire, Scotland about 1870 and came to Canada with his parents and sisters at the age of 16 years. He stayed in Ontario for several years working in a Blacksmith shop with Mr. Arthur Archibald, who later married his sister, Ellen Laing; then he went gold mining and prospecting in the Golden and Fort Steele areas. Then he went to Calgary. My mother, Robina Ann McKay was born in Aberdeenshire, Scotland in 1879 and came to Canada, with her brother Lewis, in 1905 with the intention of staying one year to visit her uncle, Wm. McKay in Calgary. There she met Frank Laing and one year later they were married by the Rev. F. Allan in Innisfail on March 31, 1906. They bought a wagon and a cook stove and headed for Trenville and their homestead where they lived for several years. Innisfail was their trading centre for lumber and big supplies, although there was a Trenville Store and school of which my father was a trustee. He came to the Innisfail (Aberdeen district) area in 1908 or 1909 when his father passed away, and there he settled until the time of his death in 1938.

In the Aberdeen district they farmed until Dad's death. Mother died in 1959 in Quesnel, B.C. Dad served on the Municipal Council at Innisfail for many years as a councillor and as Reeve. He played the bagpipes and formed a band that played at Fairs and also gathered at home to play for their own and the neighbors entertainment. Some of the members of the pipe band as I recall were: John McAllister, Tom Biggs, A. Archibald, Joe Archibald, Duncan Cameron; John Hill and Harry Wilson were drummers. Cribbage, checkers and house parties were the chief forms of recreation.

They had a family of five, two of whom predeceased Dad. Art married Edith Fisher who lives in Innisfail; he passed away in 1957. Neil after farming for some years in the district, moved away and is in the Edmonton area. He was married to Vivian Moore. Edith and her son Delbert and family live near Bowden. Frank may be in Innisfail when not working elsewhere. Mary married Doug McGillivray and lives in Quesnel, B.C.

We all attended Aberdeen School. My first teacher was Miss Abercrombie, then Miss Fead, Miss Boyd, Miss Jones and others, and Miss. A.E. Whealon. Our neighbors were Biggs, Hemphkins, Moffats (cousins), Archibalds (cousins), MacAdams, Beckets, Lalors, and many many more.

DAVID LAIRD by David Laird Jr.

My Father and Mother, Mr. & Mrs. David Laird, were born in the Paisley, Scotland area in 1869 and 1870. They were married July 12, 1900. My Mother worked in a Coates Mill and my Father was a

machinist, and a Mission Lay Preacher. Their first son, David, was born May 1, 1903, in Scotland.

It was in May of 1903 that my father left for Canada. Upon arrival in Calgary, he purchased a lot on 12th Ave. W. (then the outskirts of the city and about a mile from the Post Office). He built a house that first year; my mother and I arrived in Canada on May 2, 1904. The horse tie-rails on Calgary streets and the Indian Camping ground beside the Post Office (where they came to wait for their Treaty money) were certainly a contrast from what we had left. My father worked for Tom Underwood, a Calgary contractor, as well as being a lay preacher in the rural areas. I recall that one service was in the new C.P.R. station in Airdrie as there was no other place there to hold it.

He decided to come to the Innisfail district because of the opportunity of getting a piece of property of their own in this new country. They sold their Calgary property, bought three horses, harness, wagon box, and other equipment to take up a homestead and drove north. One stop was at Sam Scarlett's stopping house. He took a homestead west of Innisfail across the Little Red Deer River and on the south bank of the Big Red Deer River in the summer of 1905. He built a log house, then Mother and I came. The homestead was almost solid bush and trees. One clear spot of 9 acres was first plowed and a log barn built for horses and two cows.

When he was seeding this field, a mother bear and her two cubs came across. The horses were hard to handle, but father managed to take them to the barn and went for the neighbor boys, Earl, Frank and Jess Sanborne, who came and shot all three bears, and loaded them into a wagon. They stopped at the house, I was lifted up to see the bears laying in the wagon, and I can remember the bear meat tasted pretty good.

Dad used to cut wood and haul it to Innisfail; if he couldn't sell it or trade it in the pole, he would cut it with a buck saw into stove lengths, pack it into the wagon box, and haul it back to town.

He traded this homestead for some property in Calgary on 16th Avenue and then in 1909 sold the Calgary property and rented a 1/4 section from Gotchier in the Oklahoma district, one mile from the school. The early-built frame house had lath in the walls split out of small trees with a hand axe. When the wind blew, there was little to stop it. Many times in winter after the wood fire went out, the water in the kettle would be frozen solid. In these days it was very hard to obtain food, and buying stamps was harder because here you had to have cash — and cash was scarce.

While on the homestead my first two sisters were born: Mary (Mrs. Stanley Raine of Penticton) and Susan (Mrs. Zumwalt of Red Deer). My third sister, Tina, was born after we moved from the "Frenchman's place". She is Mrs. Ron Jorden of Didsbury.

At the time of moving to the Frenchman's place, my father bought an 80 acre plot called the Bluff place. This was across the Little Red Deer River and east 2-1/2 miles on the south side of the Big Red, and

across from the mouth of the Medicine River. There was a garden spot on it which grew very good turnips amongst other things. These turnips we would take to town for sale in little bundles. Being across the river caused many a hardship, especially when it was high or in flood. My mother went across it on horseback to take food to father and we children when we were working on it.

One night in about 1912, my father had worked until dark. He had the team he had driven from Calgary and the wagon and box with a disc harrow tied behind when he headed for home. The river had swelled higher than expected. They got out into the middle of the river when the box raised in the wagon pegs and was about to float off. One horse gave up, but the other — a determined mare and exceptionally strong for her size — made a special effort and dragged her partner, wagon, disc and all out of the water. When my father looked back by moonlight, he saw the water current hitting the top of the disc seat and shooting up water into the air like a fountain.

I can remember when I was six years old my parents locked me in the chicken house until I consented to wear a complete Scottish Kilt suit — I believed it made me like a girl.

Our first neighbors on the homestead were the Sanborn Bros., W.G. Kelly, Pecknolds and Robertsons. When we moved to the Frenchman's place, there was Jackson Newsham, Dan Siley (who named the district Oklahoma), Tom Abraham and Jack Bird. Dad had many town of Innisfail connections, these being: Keast Real Estate, Wm. Hodge & Sons, G.W. West McDermott, and "Crabapple Joe" (the Chinese restaurant).

One main interest father had was a magic lantern he had brought with him from Scotland. It first burned coal oil for light. He had colored slide pictures of "Pilgrim's Progress" and a set of scripture pictures. These, being colored, were really something! He went around to many schools, halls, churches, and homes from the time of his arrival showing and speaking about these pictures. My mother, too, was a faithful Sunday School teacher for many years. I have been a dedicated and active worker in my church since 1927, due to the influence of my parents and of Mr. Aberhart.

My parents lived in this district until their passing. Mother told us that when she was a young girl she saw Queen Victoria in Scotland. She died when just two month's short of 100 years. Father passed away at the age of 99 years, 3 mos. Both are buried in the Innisfail cemetery.

DAVID LAIRD JR.

In the fall it usually was wet and early frosts would freeze the grain. We often had to wait until the ground froze to cut the grain with a binder and with the heavy steam outfits they couldn't go many places for threshing until the roads were frozen.

The Sanborn boys had a steam threshing outfit and went threshing in the district with other bachelors as crew. One place of keen interest was Millers; May Miller was one of the few young ladies and besides

cooked meals with pies and cakes. One day May decided to make a well-iced beautiful cake for the crew out of tamarac sawdust. She cut the pieces very small; every one of the young fellows took a piece, and ate all of it hoping to cause no offense; of course, May couldn't stay in the room to watch them doing it.

At the age of 14 going to school seemed a waste of time; the operation of a gasoline engine seemed more important. In the winter of 1917 I took two short courses in tractor operation; that summer I had worked for Edward Scragg at \$2.85 per day running his gas tractor. The next year I repaired and operated tractors working for Homer Delong and Nelson Bros. at Markerville; bush-breaking for Walter Larratt and threshing for John Carr, B. Center and Jack Moore. In 1920 Mrs. Bill Clifford saved my life when she came out with a drink for me — I had lain down for a rest after operating the tractor for 36 hours without sleep and was overpowered by the exhaust from the idling tractor. By 1923 I was able to buy a 10-20 Titan tractor for contract plowing and breaking and with father backing me bought a new threshing outfit for \$3300.00. I was one of the first in the district to operate a portable sawing and grain grinding machine and to own and operate a gas tractor threshing outfit. In 1926 I got the first dealership in the district for Chrysler cars and started the Chrysler garage on Innisfail's main street employing Bill Quantz, Art Overholt and Sam Dobson as mechanics. However, very few cars were available and it was closed that fall. During the 30's I sold cars and had the Massey Harris machinery agency. The small horse machinery taken in as trades on power equipment was traded for lumber and I began building with Ray Carpenter — our first job was a church in Bowden.

On a business trip east in 1939, I noticed cabins in operation beside a busy highway. I purchased the present 'Bluebird' corner as acres in a grainfield from Mr. Harry Moore Sr. A shack was built and we moved into it with five little boys in the spring of 1940. My idea of cabins was considered foolish. I went on as a carpenter with Bennett & White Construction Co. when the airports were being built, ending with one of their head carpenters as my partner. After the Bluebird Service Station was built, we started in the contracting business doing jobs at Redwater, Ft. Saskatchewan, Leduc, Edmonton, Wainwright, and Camrose. In 1958 we moved back to Innisfail to live and operate Laird Motor sales, built and leased the Innisfail Coin Laundry and built the first section of the Bluebird Motel after taking out the oldest cabins.

I was one of the first to build and lease a highway service station and coffee shop, and to operate tourist cabins, on the highway between Calgary and Edmonton.

Since November 1928, when I married Edna Woodall of Bowden, I have been assisted by a good, co-operative, hard-working, wise, and sincere wife. We also raised a family of five boys and one girl: David William — in charge of operations for Parkland Feed, east of Blackfalds, Alberta; Gordon

— who was manager for Dominion Oilfield Supply Co. in Edmonton at twenty-six years of age when he lost his life in a freak drowning accident; Roy — who has a trucking business in Kaslo, B.C.; Laurence — a territory supervisor for the Sherritt Gordon Co. Ltd.; Lyle — with the A.G.T.; Laurene — a receptionist in a specialist Doctor's office in Red Deer; and there are fifteen grandchildren from four years of age to twenty.

JAMES ALEXANDER LAIRD by Pearl & Maurice Bright

Mr. and Mrs. James Alexander Laird moved from a farm in the Moose Ridge district west of Bowden to Innisfail in the spring of 1919.

Mr. Laird was born in Kirkaldy, Scotland in 1877 and emigrated to Canada in 1903 going directly from Montreal via C.P.R. to Bowden, and then by wagon to his homestead west of Bowden. He was accompanied by his bride of one month, the former Gertrude Lillian Pickering, born in Carlisle, Cumberland, England. With him also were his parents James and Martha Laird, and his two brothers George and Harry.

Before leaving Scotland, Mr. James Laird was employed by a telephone Company in Hawick. While on the farm, two children were born to Mr. & Mrs. Laird: Lillian Pearl in 1907 and James Edward in 1914. When Mr. & Mrs. Laird were first on their homestead, to get supplies it meant using a wagon in the summer and a sleigh in the winter and some of those trips were quite rugged.

During the first years on the farm, mail was picked up from Red Lodge post office, but as the district became more populated, a post office was established at the Laird farm and was known as Mountain House. The duties of postmaster were administered by Mr. Laird's father until his death about 1916.

George and Harry Laird acquired farms of their own. During the first World War James Laird raised and sold horses to the government for army use.

It was while he was on the farm that Mr. Laird became the first secretary treasurer of the Municipal District of Poplar Grove. His work in this position became too demanding for him to continue farming, so in 1919, he moved his family and his mother to Innisfail where he took up full time duties in an office.

The Lairds bought a house owned by Jesse Stuart on the corner of main street and Murray Avenue, where there is now a service station.

Pearl Laird had her early schooling at White Creek school (three miles from their farm home). The balance of her schooling through grade twelve was in the Innisfail public and high schools. Following completion of her schooling she worked in her fathers' office until her marriage to Maurice William Bright in July 1929. Mr. Bright came to Innisfail in the spring of 1925 when his father Charles Bright, built the Innisfail Hotel which he operated until the fall of 1927.

Mr. Laird's son, James Edward, completed his entire schooling in Innisfail. Mr. Laird's mother, Martha Laird, died in 1926 and is buried in Innisfail.

In the fall of 1934, Mr. James Laird resigned from his position of secretary-treasurer and moved with his wife, son, daughter and son-in-law to Nelson B.C. where the family went into the grocery business. Mr. Laird died January 4, 1937 and is buried in Nelson.

In the spring of 1938, Mrs. Laird and son James Edward, Pearl and Maurice Bright moved from Nelson to Edmonton. The family lived together until 1940 when James Edward Laird joined the R.C.A.F. where he was in administrative work in Canada for the duration. While stationed in Yorkton, Sask., he married Loreen Moore in 1941. Following his discharge, Mr. Laird became an employee of the Department of Education in the Alberta Government in Edmonton. In 1953, he was transferred to the School of Technology in Calgary as bursar, a position which he still occupies.

Following the death of her husband, Mrs. James Laird continued to make her home with her daughter and son-in-law in Edmonton until her death in 1957. She was grandmother to Neil Edward Bright who was born to Pearl and Maurice Bright on May 15, 1945.

While the Laird family was in Innisfail, Mr. James Laird was active in the Masonic Lodge, the I.O.O.F., the Presbyterian Church and enjoyed curling, golf and badminton. He was interested in amateur dramatics and produced several plays. Mrs. Laird was active in the Rebekah Lodge and the Presbyterian Church in Innisfail.

RICHARD LALOR by Albert Lalor

Mr. & Mrs. Richard Lalor arrived at Innisfail July, 1896: accompanied by his step daughter Bella (6 yrs. old). They had come from Toronto. Mr. Wm. Center met them at the station and took them to his farm and they remained there a few days before moving onto the homestead occupied by Geo. Lalor (who had arrived 2 or 3 yrs. earlier). The log house they went to had a sod roof and no floor. It was a big change for my parents coming from the city. Dad knew nothing of farming having been a brush maker by trade in Ireland. My mother did know a little about it having been raised on a farm in Ireland. Dad was born in 1867 & mother in 1868 in Ireland.

Mother and father met in Toronto and were married there. Because of the advertising for the western part of Canada and the prize of 160 acres for \$10. they came here. I remember my father telling of the time when the first Sat. afternoon arrived since he left the east and he was standing at the door of his home and all he could see was poplar trees and brush and he thought the world had surely come to an end. He had been used to the Saturdays as a day off in Toronto when he was a brush man — some difference!

I was born in the same shack they came to first. Father came to town in search of a doctor, and he was directed to "Doc" Lauder and he was the one that delivered me.

Money was scarce and my father walked to town one time with a pound of butter in his pocket to trade it for stamps at G.W. West's store. It was in 1905 at the suggestion of Mr. Wm Center that my Father put



Mrs. Richard Lalor, 1885.

in a tender to the Innisfail Butter & Cheese Mfg. Co. to haul cream from the Aberdeen District. It was one of the few jobs that had cash in it, and my Father was fortunate in getting it. My father hauled cream two days a week from the spring of 1905 until the fall of 1912 with a team and wagon. There were no roads in those days — just country trails and some mighty big mud holes in them. Previous to this the farmers took their cream to Mr. Jack Moore who would separate the cream and then they would take it back home to make butter that they would trade for groceries. With the creamery now they could sell their produce for cash. In those days the cream wasn't measured by the pound, it was measured by the inch in a standard measuring can. My father carried all the equipment necessary for this measuring. He would keep track of it in a book that he turned in to the creamery and then the farmers would be paid accordingly. With this work of hauling cream, it was the first job he had that paid cash in 10 years. The farm was mortgaged, but through this job, it was saved.

The Richard Lalor family consisted of: step daughter Isabelle (Mrs. Leonard Pearce). She passed away in 1952 in Vancouver. Elizabeth (Mrs. Claus Goldstrom). They were married in 1924 and he died in 1972. She resides in Red Deer. Charlie who married Lillian Fisher in 1926. Charlie passed away

in 1969 and his widow resides in Innisfail. Bill married Ruth Fisher in 1935 and they reside in the Aberdeen district. Bert (me) — born in 1898 and married Rose Hammond in 1948. Rose passed away in 1958. I make my home in Innisfail.

Mother passed away in July 16, 1934 and father passed away March 23, 1942. He was buried with full honors from the Orange Lodge. Both are interred in the Innisfail Cemetery.

The first I remember of Innisfail was in 1904-05 when we came to the fair by team and wagon. The fair was held at the old exhibition grounds. There was a rope between the posts where the people stood around and leaned on it. I remember vividly going into a chinese restaurant and having my first drink of strawberry pop. It was the most wonderful drink I had ever tasted. Phil Holden came to the first fair ever held in Innisfail and his only means of transportation was a horse-drawn hay rake.

The Lalor family went to school in the first Aberdeen school which was on the H.A. Malcolm homestead. We walked to school (1 3/4 mi.) winter and summer. Some of those attending the school were: the Centers (Bill, Hazel, Luella, Alma, Sadie & Florence), Vera Scarfe, the Cameron girls, Rollinson girls, Malcolm family, Agnes Moffat, Frances Laing, Ray Waite, Hoveys, Tams, Springays. My teachers were: Misses McKenzie, McLennon, Fry, Martin and Mr. Jim Burns. Alma Center, a former classmate, also taught here.



Mr. and Mrs. Richard Lalor, taken in 1915.

A new school was needed and by attempting to move the old one by capston (a very slow process) it only got a short distance and winter caught up with them and the school was sitting on the prairie about a mile from where they started. In the spring of 1917 a prairie fire finished the job so the new brick school was built. At present it is a very good community center. I once had the job of lighting the fires at the school I was attending for 10c per morning. When I quit in the spring of 1914 my brother Charlie assumed this duty.

I always had the ambition to have a farm of my own and this I did. I was engaged in mixed farming until my retirement to Innisfail in the fall of 1966. I



The Lalors: Charlie, Bill, Bert, Elizabeth and Bell. This is where Bert was born.

have been active in the Aberdeen Picnic Assn. since its' inception in 1922, a charter member of the Aberdeen social club (1920), a member of the Innisfail Odd Fellows Lodge from 1924-1936, called square dances for 30 years. I have kept a diary since Jan. 1, 1918. I have recorded all the important events in it and am at present on my 18th volume. Often I am able to settle disputes by checking these diaries.

In the early days for entertainment we made our own fun. If anyone could play a violin — a dance was on. We would swim in a water hole jumping in after hanging our clothes on the nearest bush. I recall a very bad hail storm in 1914. My parents were in town and we children hid under the table while the windows broke and hail came in bouncing on the floor. When the storm was over all the crops were gone. Also I remember Dad & mother returning home with their groceries and G.W. West had always slipped in bags of candies for we children. What a treat that was! My father purchased his first binder (Massey Harris) from P.L. Grasse in the summer of 1904 and it was used until 1938. Some of the businessmen I knew in the early days were: Frank Anderson (livery barn), Sandy Dundas (Royal Hotel — I remember its' burning down), Wm Hodge & Sons, Boodie Bros. (silent pictures), Charlie Hall, Bamsey & Jack Wilson (blacksmiths), G.W. West who had the first store and where Dad always traded, Jesse Stewart, Wm Geary the druggist.

I am sure if our parents could return to this modern day, they would be frightened to death at the drastic changes in the past 50 yrs.

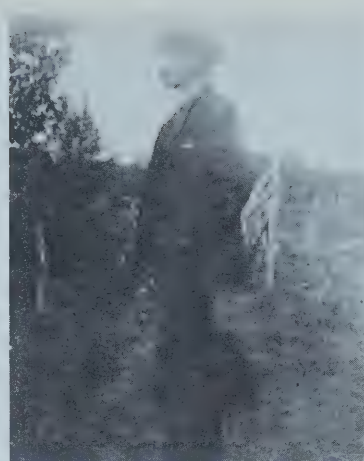
GEORGE LALOR by Albert Lalor

My uncle, George Lalor came from Toronto to Innisfail in the spring of 1894. He was born in Dublin, Ireland November of 1862. When he was 6 yrs old he moved with his family to Belfast where his father was a member of the Irish Constabulary. He came west to take up farming of which he knew nothing. He had been a postal clerk in Belfast and learned the trade of a brush-maker. He worked at his trade in Toronto at Charlie Becks brush factory until coming west.

Upon his arrival here he worked for different settlers trying to pick up the art of farming and later did file on a homestead in the Aberdeen district in about 1895. He remained there until 1901 when he went to Morley to work as a section hand for the C.P.R. under Mr. E.H. Center (section foreman).

The settlers in those days were very far apart and walking was the one way of getting to visit one another. There were many times Uncle George got lost when walking to visit a neighbor — and there were times when he would end up where he started from.

In October, 1903 Miss Julia Smythe arrived in Calgary from Drumbor, Ireland. Uncle George had known her in Ireland and they were married in Calgary and came north to Innisfail to his homestead and spent the winter on it. This farm in the Aberdeen district he rented to my father in the spring of 1904. It was then they both went to Morley to work on the



George Lalor, taken in 1918.

section. The wages were about \$2.00 per day — but it was cash. In 1905 he returned to the farm and father and he traded 1/2 sections. From 1906-1910 he went to Bowden and worked for the C.P.R. Here, two daughters were born: Anna (Mrs. Alf Ibbatson) and Frances (Mrs. Clinton Richardson).

In 1910 they moved back to the Aberdeen district. This farm was 3 mi. east of the present overpass. The girls attended Aberdeen school. The family went into developing a good herd of Shorthorn cattle. Mrs. Lalor specialized in raising turkeys. In 1919 they had a farm auction conducted by Geo. Bryan & Sandy Dallas and they moved to Stettler again with the C.P.R.

In 1923 Uncle George was unloading coal at the Coal tipple in the rail yard and caught cold and later died from pneumonia in Feb. 1923 at the age of 60.

He was a Mason, staunch churchman, and was one of the first Sunday school teachers in the district. Wife Julia passed away in 1940 and was laid to rest beside her husband in the Innisfail Cemetery.

Garter snakes are so numerous around Pine Lake that some of the citizens are utilizing them for tying gates. — nothing like unity and economy to build up a district.

WILLIAM B. LaMARSH by Gordon LaMarsh

My father, William Burton LaMarsh was born in Essex County, Ontario Sept. 15, 1884. It was in 1890 that he came to Innisfail with his parents Mr. & Mrs. J.M. LaMarsh. Four Daughters and six sons accompanied them. Having arrived by train in Calgary with their settlers effects, they journeyed from Calgary to Innisfail by covered wagon. They stayed overnight at the Constantine Stopping House and then went to their homestead in the Horn Hill district 9 miles N.E. of Innisfail.

While proving up on this homestead my grandfather freighted from Calgary to Innisfail and Red

Deer with a four horse team and wagon. My father, Burt, stayed with his grandfather, David Parker, in his younger years and it was during this time that tragedy came. Burt lost his Mother and sister through drowning while fording the Red Deer River with team and wagon June 22, 1906. The box floated off the wagon and was carried down stream. It was only the horses and gear that reached the bank safely.

My mother, the former Julia Holbastad was born in St. Paul, Minn. and came with her parents in 1904 to Innisfail district. She met her future husband in Camrose in 1906. She was working in Camrose as was father who was in partnership with his uncle in the livery barn business.

On Feb. 3, 1907, Burt & Julia were married at the home of Fred Parker in the Horn Hill district. They resided in this district a short time and then moved to Rosedale, B.C. where they remained for 7 1/2 years. During this time three daughters and a son were born: Amy m. Alex Grabb in 1933 & resides in Vancouver; Carrie m. Maynard Schei in 1944 and resides in Innisfail; Marjorie m. Lloyd Shanks in 1936 and passed away in 1967.



Bert LaMarsh Family. Back row: Marjorie, Evelyn, Gordon, Julia, Ellen; bottom row: Carrie, Mrs. LaMarsh, Mr. Burt LaMarsh, Amy.

Mr. & Mrs. LaMarsh moved back to Alberta in the summer of 1915 to the Clarendon district where they again took up farming. There were three more children born: Julia m. Bill Baumgardt in 1937 and they reside in Valleyview, Alta.; Ellen m. Roy Peterson in 1939 and resides in Calgary.

Mother and father farmed until 1947. Father was one of the early steam threshermen of the district. They moved into Innisfail in August of 1947. For the next three years Father cooked for the M.D. of Arthur's road crew. For the following 4 1/2 years he was employed on the town crew of Innisfail.

Feb. 3rd, 1967 Mr. & Mrs. LaMarsh celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary with all members of the family present. They were later fortunate in being able to celebrate their 66th anniversary.

Father passed away March 8, 1973 at the age of 89 years, and is interred in the Innisfail cemetery.

I, Gordon, since leaving the farm in 1947 have worked at Lundgren & Hoffos Motors, A. & B.

Motors, United Service, Moreau Motors and Newman Ford where I am at present. I am a member of the Innisfail Volunteer Fire Brigade. I am very proud to hold a certificate in Military qualifications in rescue operations.

Mother and I reside in Innisfail.

OLIVER LANGEVIN by Marcel Langevin

My father, Oliver Langevin was born September 13, 1868 near Quebec City. He left home at about the age of thirteen years to work as a waiter on a boat plying the Great Lakes, during the summer..... and finishing at Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

He worked his way, probably harvesting, to Montana and north into Alberta. From Pincher Creek he worked on construction of the railways into British Columbia. He was one of the crew that camped four miles away and was awakened by the Frank Slide. He helped rebuild the railroad after the slide.

He married Izelda Gange in Calgary around 1906. He worked as a brakeman on the Calgary-Edmonton Rail line and opened what was probably Red Deer's first butcher shop. He had the opportunity to buy a homestead where the C.P.R. station now stands — but bought instead east of Innisfail. He returned to live in Red Deer in 1911-12. He was widowed and remarried about this time. He then farmed again east of Innisfail.

He passed away April 13, 1946.

Oliver Langevin was known throughout the Innisfail district as a cattle buyer. He has five sons: Henry, Joe, George, John and Marcel.

THE LANGLEY STORY by Rebecca Langley Nelson

Joseph Carroll Langley and wife Sarah were homesteaders in 1906-1907. They came because he was interested in a new country and cheap land that was available here. These people aroused interest of my father (Harvey Augustus Langley and my mother Cynthia Gould Langley). Father arrived in Innisfail in 1906 to look over the country. He was impressed and decided his wife and small daughter (me) should follow him. My mother was a good business woman. They closed out the store business we had in Minn. and made arrangements with a man to accompany our settler effects to Innisfail.

Mother and I started by train and one thing I remember (I think it was going across Saskatchewan or Southern Alberta) was all the frozen cattle along the railway fences. They had apparently drifted along with the wind and storm in search of food and had frozen and starved to death. When we arrived in Innisfail Father was not there to meet us, so we stayed at a boarding house run by Mr. & Mrs. Bill Forrester. Father did arrive with a sleigh, and we were off on our way to Uncle's farm on the Raven River. We nearly upset many times.

Our settlers' effects didn't arrive and we finally found out the man mother had hired, had decided not to come now. Mother then had to go back to Minn. and then found that she could not come with



Langley shack; the beginning of Caroline.

stock in Settlers' cars so had to hire another man; but this time she came in on the same train herself.

This time Father met her and the train cars were unloaded and re-loaded. Upon reaching the North Raven river it was in flood and so high that they couldn't get across without a bridge. My father with the help of some other men built a bridge. While this was going on my mother had to watch the cows and horses feeding on the hills.

Being very anxious to get our own place, Father put up a lean-to shelter between two big trees and put the stove and table under that while he got a small house started. All this time my father was looking for a homestead that he could file on. My playmates were a buckskin pony (given to me by father) and a collie dog. The dog was kept close to the house as the coyotes would come very close.

My father and mother were civic minded people. Mother started a Sunday School and now that the Brownings and Van Arsdale families had arrived there were enough children that we could ask for a school and post office. The first teacher was Mr. Devore (I think he was from Texas). Mother became the first postmistress and served in this capacity for many years.

It was decided that a name must be given this Post Office and I being the first child in the district, my name was chosen at the ripe old age of 9 yrs. "Caroline" was born. Mail was very important to all the settlers and it made no difference to my mother whether she was called night or day. It could be any time that the mail would arrive as the supplies coming from Innisfail didn't come regularly, but any old time.

Father had started a herd of cattle and by procuring a good Hereford bull our herd was greatly improved. Money was scarce, but I remember not suffering as my parents were good traders. Mother made butter and sold cream too. There was much in wild fruit — blue berries, cranberries and others that were picked and canned. Father carried the mail from Innisfail and served as a delivery man for the settlers bringing groceries, clothing and repairs that were purchased in Innisfail. It was from doing these services, that the idea of starting a small store emerged. They invested \$100. in stock and upon selling out the store was sold for \$11,000. which shows how the business had built up with growth of the settlement.

A new building was built during this time for the store and it had dance hall above. My parents were

now store-keepers and as Farmers had acquired 17 quarters of land and operated the post office. This enterprise continued until 1945 when they retired to Langley B.C.

Through the help and credit extended to the settlers by the Langleys many people and their descendants have a prosperous and happy life today.

I married Oliver St. Denys during the war and we had three children: Harvey John, Clem and Cynthia Mary. I later married Sam Nelson and we had one son Sam Jr.

THE LARRATT STORY by Mr. & Mrs. Geo. Dulaney

Andrew Nidd Larratt was born in Lincolnshire, England in 1846. He was a farmer in England. The family emigrated to Fargo, North Dakota. In 1906 they moved to Langdon, Alberta, and in 1909 he came to Innisfail to farm 'The Maples', one mile southeast of Innisfail, with his wife Priscilla and sons Daniel and Robert. The rest of the family followed. Their first neighbors were Jack and Harry Moore. 'The Maples' is now owned by Roy Moore.

Andrew, a member of the United Church, helped to build the first church in Innisfail, which was destroyed by fire in 1911. He was instrumental in bringing the Salvation Army to Innisfail. He retired from the farm and moved into Innisfail. He was a tennis player and built the first regulation tennis court in Innisfail located where the Associate Clinic now stands. He died in December 1937.

Andrew and Priscilla had eight children:

Walter Larratt — buried at Calgary. His son Herbert (now living in Drumheller) attended the old Innisfail school for 6 years. He lived in Innisfail from 1909 to 1920. He recalled: — that in 1903, there was only one train a week; — when prohibition came to Innisfail in 1916; — when there were no cars and three livery barns; — when there was only one grain elevator at the north end of town.

Wilfred Larratt — he worked for Williams & Little in Innisfail and moved with them to Calgary. Deceased.

Jessie Larratt (Smith) — buried in Montana.

Daniel Larratt — born in Lincolnshire, England on April 20, 1877; married Maude Rogers in 1917. He



First house on Larratt Farm. It was built by John McLeod. L. to R.: Mr. Turnbull Sr., Roy Turnbull, Mrs. Orr, Dan Larratt, Mrs. Turnbull, Mrs. Annie Eldred, Maud Eldred.



Mr. and Mrs. Dan Larratt, Roger and Elsie.

came to Innisfail with his parents in 1909 and homesteaded in the Gordon district on the land now owned by Frank Curtis. Neighbors there were Curtis, Knipe and Harrisons. In 1914 he moved to a farm 3 1/2 miles east of Innisfail (now owned by Don Smith) where his neighbors were the Centers, Bowes, Champs, Durhams, and Lalors. A son, Charles Roger Larratt, was born April 4, 1918. He went to school in Innisfail; served with the RCAF in WWII; in 1946 he married Jean Irene; they had two children, Phyllis and Daniel (in Calgary). Charles died on May 15, 1951.

Daniel's wife Maude died in 1926. Daniel sold his farm to Harry Lowe and went to B.C.; in 1928 he returned to Innisfail and bought a quarter from Roy Turnbull. In 1931 he married Ethyl May Ager of Calgary. Ethyl was born in 1882 in Toronto and came to Calgary with her parents, Mr. & Mrs. Fredrick Hawkes, in 1902. In 1947, Daniel retired into Innisfail, selling his farm to George Dulaney (who had married Elsie Ager, Ethyl's daughter.)

Kate Larratt — (Mrs. Robert Peasgood), died in Calgary. She had three children..

Nellie Larratt died in the USA.

Robert Larratt died in Calgary.

Annie Larratt married George Eldred. They had four children. The Eldred's farmed east of Innisfail. Deceased.

W.B. LARRATT by Helen Ager

Wilfred Browning Larratt came to Alberta from North Dakota, U.S.A. in the early part of 1908. Previously his father Andrew Nid and brothers Walter and Dan arrived in Alberta to look for prospects of settling here.

Wilfred then followed. His wife, Franc, son Charles (who later passed away 1909) and Daughters Helen and Louise came a little later. They settled near Bowden where their daughter Winnifred Alberta, was born. The family later moved to Innisfail (in 1911) where daughter Mildred and son Daniel was born.

During the stay in Innisfail Wilfred Browning Larratt was active in the community and at one time was agent for a farm implement company (International Harvester). He worked for a time in Percy's Bakery. He was active in the Methodist Church. He and his wife sang in the choir and he was superintendant of the Sunday School.

He was one that fought the fire that destroyed the Church, Livery stable and lumberyard. It was a frightening thing to be in bed and watch the great billowing clouds of dull red smoke across the sky. We lived about 3 - 4 blocks away from the fire at that time.

Wilfred Larratt was born in Thurlby, Lincoln, England. When he was 14 years he came to the U.S.A. with his family by cattle boat. They went to Iowa and then to North Dakota where he married Franc Violet Upton.

We were in Innisfail at the time the airplane piloted by Miss Stinson flew over. It was a memorable event.

The family moved from Innisfail to Calgary in December 1919. — Dad moving with Williams & Little. (later to become Williams brothers).

W.B. Larratt was born November 14, 1874 and passed away March 14, 1968.

DR. J.D. LAUDER

John Drought Lauder was born in Ireland in January, 1867. He attended public school here and was later at Trinity College in Dublin. It wasn't until the age of 24 that he studied medicine and it was at Liverpool, England where he studied for 3 years. It was during a summer when he was in England that he and a friend became Queen Victoria's body guards. Dr. Lauders' father was a clergyman of the Irish Episcopal Church.

In 1883, he came to Nova Scotia where he attended Veterinarian College for one year. He then joined the N.W.M.P. and went to Winnipeg and from there to Ft. Pelly, Sask. In the summer of the following year he left with Gov. Laird for the Blackfoot reserve to attend the making of the treaty with the Indians. He remained at Ft. McLeod as the hospital Sgt. for some time. He was later transferred to Calgary where he worked in the medical capacity for the gov't running between Calgary and Ft. McLeod. He was appointed sub-agent for the Blackfoot reserve for a year.

When the Northwest rebellion broke out he went north with them as a Lieut. in the Alberta Rifles. He returned to Calgary and worked as a foreman on a ranch for a while. It was while he was there that he was elected to the Northwest council to Regina for a term of 2 yrs. This was in 1886.

In 1892 he came to Innisfail with his wife Marguerite Thomson of Quebec. They had been married in Calgary in 1886. They had 6 children: Lulu, Thomas B., Eileen, Dora Delacy, Kathleen Oldham & a son Bob who died when very young.

For many years he was about the only doctor in Central and Northern Alberta. He did everything from delivering babies to taking out appendix,

straightening broken bones, extracting teeth — plus his veterinarian work. “Doc” Lauder was also the J.P. in Innisfail and many the story is still told of him and how he shaped the lives of many in those early days. Mrs. Lauder had relatives in Innisfail — a sister Mrs. Fanny Barwis & a brother Frank Thomson.

Dr. Lauder died in 1934 and he and his wife are buried in the Innisfail cemetery as are Kathleen and her husband Vern Crawford.

THOMAS BERNARD LAUDER

Tom Lauder was born in Calgary, Oct. 22, 1888. He is the son of Dr. & Mrs. J.D. Lauder. Tom came to Innisfail when he was 3 yrs. old with his parents and sister Lulu who was 5 yrs. old at the time. They arrived by buck board with a single horse. Dr. Lauder had already been in the area to look around and then brought his family to where he considered a beautiful spot of western Canada.

Tom attended school where the curling rink now stands. The school teachers he remembers best were Bob Archer and Miss Baker. He attended school with Lulu, Gladys West, Billy Simpson, Fred & Jim Smith, Sheppard Barwis, Casey Woods. Other early pals were Sandy & Norman Kremer and Fred Smith.

“I started in riding race horses when I was 9 yrs. old. I rode it in Innisfail around Dodds’ Lake (there was no lake then, only a pond in the middle). Lulu was a great one for horses too, and rode side-saddle. The first horse I bought was from an Indian for 90c. The Indian said the price was one dollar, however, I only had 90c as Mother kept my earned money — so I convinced the Indian 90c was a pretty close amount and so I got the horse. It was after the deal was made that the horse kicked me in the face — so I got rid of that horse at a profit I suppose, but it was the cheapest horse I ever bought.”

The next two horses Tom got were from Phil Boucher (auctioneer and horse lover). He gave Tom 2 horses for payment of the time Tom spent riding a group of horses for a year for Mr. Boucher. Tom recalls that one was a buckskin and the other one a black one. The first ride he took with these horses was going with Lee Wells a way east of Three Hills. They took Tom because he wasn’t very heavy and could ride fast. They were to bring Curry’s horses back (the horses had gone from Calgary out there and become somewhat wild). It took a long time to get them corralled. Tom remembers this as being the greatest thing in his life. He was just turned loose in the morning and looked through field glasses to try and locate the horses. This took place about 50 miles from Innisfail and Tom was 11 yrs. old at the time.

Gilmour & Pitts had a store in Innisfail selling men’s suits and Tom had returned from racing horses as he was now getting too big for this kind of work and decided that he would buy a suit there. The biggest complaint was that he was only able to wear it a year as he grew out of it.

Tom remembers the Murray Hotel when Charlie Murray and his wife ran it. They had a bar and sold whiskey. When asked if they had bed bugs, Tom said,

“They might have as there was certainly room for them.”

“I remember the moving of Wests’ store from across the track to the new townsite. Billy Wilson did it with a windlass and horses. I remember Jack Smith (harness maker) Jim Smith (on the railroad) Sam Smith was a painter and Jack Miller was on the railroad as was Mr. Champ. The St. Denys were the first people I met when I came to Innisfail. They were camped and settled by Napoleon Lake.”

This reminded Tom of the race horse he rode for Napoleon Remillard. “I remember “Sage” and he had a lot of dogs, they were just dogs, but he did have a few race horses and I rode for Sage for 2 years.”

“Frank Malcolm Sr. was hauling coal when we came to town. Mr. Malcolm did this all winter and brought in four good mares with him when he came. He hauled the coal from Content. It was the next year that Mr. Malcolm got the job of building the Bank of Commerce and then the creamery across the track. The Vartys and the Millers lived on the same street as us and we were all very well acquainted. Vartys had the brick yard once . . . Sam Hornett had 2 rows of teeth — one row was false because of an overshot jaw. He was a very strong man . . . not so tall as you would think for such strength. One time he got mad at a horse and hit it with his fist and killed it. It wasn’t my horse tho’.”

“Jim Barwis came to the country in 1874. He came with a cattle outfit and was a herder. He came from Montreal. My Aunt Fanny was Mrs. Barwis. Other relatives were the Thomsons.”

A story Tom related that we found fascinating was of the time when Bill Kemp was running the livery barn and because Tom always had a horse in there and was at the barn most of the time, Mr. Kemp asked Tom if he would deliver a telegram to two men who had come from the old country and lived east of town. Tom didn’t know where they lived nor had he ever met them — but he would go to Charlie Peters who was 16 mi. east of Innisfail & 2-1/2 mi. south. He would direct Tom to Tim Wyndham’s place. He got to Wyndhams and stayed all night there. There were so few settlers at the time. The following morning Mr. Wyndham pointed out to Tom where he was to go — Tom missed this place and followed the river to Content and the bridge where he met an old Frenchman who told him he had come too far north. Tom found his way back and discovered he had gone 30 miles out of his way. The telegram that he had taken to Mr. Sprout of Sprout & Woods was telling him he must go back home at once. Tom was only 15 years old at the time. He was able to find his way straight home. The telegrapher at the time was Johnny Duff.

“Clark was a clerk at the hotel and was a Scotsman — I remember he gave me a bottle in the morning. Bill Miller had a confectionery in Innisfail with his mother. The mother used to cut up the apples to make the pounds come out right.”

Tom always wanted to be a cowboy and from his endeavours in this line everyone would have to admit he accomplished this to the hilt.

He went to the stampede in 1923 for the first time. There were cart races then and Tom had a cart. But, he went home from the Stampede with the decision that he would get a chuckwagon team ready for the next year. He did and became World Champion Chuckwagon driver in 1924. This was not only exciting for him, but for everyone that knew him and brought honor directly to Innisfail his home town.

When asked about his most exciting race in the 20 years he was involved — he had to think for a minute as they were all exciting. He did relate one story of great interest. "Hoot" Gibson of Hollywood was at the Calgary Stampede taking pictures and one night Tom had tough luck inasmuch as he came out too fast and the track was slippery. It was raining heavily. He did a somersault with the wagon. It was after that Hoot Gibson came over and told Tom he had never seen anything like that in his life and would give anything to get a picture of something like that. Tom replied "How much would you give me for a picture? I'll tip it over." Gibson said he would give him \$100 if he would tip it over. Tom said "All right I'll tip 'er over" — and he did. He remembers that he stretched out the lines and broke the wagon square in the middle. Hoot Gibson fixed all his wagon — everything that was broken — put a new box on it fixed all the harness, new canvas and hoop. It cost Gibson \$125 to get it like new and then gave Tom \$100 for the wildest drive ever and another \$100 to tip it over. Tom said he had done better than if he had won the race.

The first outriders Tom had were Bob (his son) who was the youngest at the time, Bill Bagley, Jonsey and a man from Cochrane. His own family were outriders much of the time in later years. There was Jack, Bob and Iris. He said Iris can break a horse and show a horse and is extremely talented in every way with a horse. When asked if there was ever a horse he couldn't break he replied "Yes, but I traded them off to give someone else the opportunity of trying." Tom Lauder was World Champion four times.

Goldie Lauder, his wife, he tells with great pride was a truly great horsewoman and could saddle, and harness all the horses for the stampede as efficiently as any one.

Tom worked for the U.S. government in building the Alaska highway and said it was the hardest work in his life. The Americans only said "Hurry, hurry, hurry." He said he nearly worked himself to death. He had 18 horses he worked with up there and they were going 24 hrs. a day. But he came home with well earned money and bought the Tim Wyndham ranch and names it the Lone Star Ranch. He sold this in 1959 and moved to Trochu. In 1965 he bought a farm at Stettler. He is now in Elnora. He has sold all his cattle off last fall (1972) but still has 9 head of horses.

Tom Lauder married Goldie Zierke of Huxley in 1913. They were able to celebrate their 50th anniversary. It was at this time that many friends and relatives were present to add congratulations to a

couple not only well known in the district, but throughout the land.

Mr. & Mrs. Tom Lauder raised 8 children: Jack residing at Elnora, Bob residing at Dawson Creek B.C., Kathleen (Mrs. Jim Jensen) of Innisfail, Iris (Mrs. Ronny Glass) of High River, Bill of Elnora, Babe (Doris — Mrs. Dolan) of Port Coquitlam, Jim of High River and Troy (deceased).

Our last question to Tom Lauder was "If you had to live your life over again what would you do different?" It didn't take long for his reply "I'd do it just the same."

Accidents came thick and fast on the C & E Line.: The crowd began to assemble at the station waiting for the arrival of the train. The engine only appeared minus the train carrying passengers. This time the whole train, except the engine had jumped the track. The majority of the passengers jumped up and hung on for dear life onto the rail running thru' the car. One Chinaman who was too short to reach made a jump for it and hung from the rail letting his feet swing wherever they would.

JAMES L. LAW by Hattie (Law) Grange

My Dad, James Mabee Law, was born December 27, 1868 in Iowa. He spent his early life in North Dakota — Hannah, being his parental home. Mother, Clara Ethel Ferguson was born September 3, 1880 in Midlands, Ontario. Her parents moved to Rosebank, Manitoba when she was a baby. Dad migrated to Rosebank where he worked as a blacksmith. It was in Rosebank where he met Mother and they were married in Winnipeg in 1898. Brother Frank was born 1900; George in 1903; and I, Harriet, in 1906 and Jack in 1910. We were all born in Rosebank. Dad became an elevator agent in Rosebank and then in Miami. In 1914, we moved to Winnipeg where Dad became a grain superintendent for the Bawlf Grain Company. In 1918, we moved to Okotoks where Dad and the boys discovered that farming was not their forte. Chester (my youngest brother) was born in Calgary in 1918. It was at this time that Dad became an elevator agent for the Bawlf Grain Company in Innisfail (1920) and we lived in Innisfail for 20 years.

Frank managed to get his university entrance while on the farm. I recall him milking numerous cows in the morning, studying in the afternoons and then riding horseback to town for special instruction in the evening. He was among the first medical doctors to graduate from the U. of A. in 1925. What a struggle both he and Dad had to garner enough money each year to pay for his education. Frank sold several sets of aluminum cooking utensils to people in Innisfail and district. He also augmented his income by selling magazines during the summer months. He set up practice in Tofield — using a packing box for a desk. He and his wife Bernice (Carmichael)

lived there for about 12 years. Their three children were born there (Jim, Don and Lorraine). Around 1937, they moved to Edmonton where Frank and Dr. Eardley Allen started the Allen Clinic. Frank and Bern are now retired and living in Edmonton.

George attended High School in Innisfail and graduated from the U. of A. as a pharmacist. He first worked for Norman Badcock and then for John Calder in Innisfail. He bought a drug store in Didsbury. He and his wife Frances (Williams) raised three children: Richard, Judith and Wendy. George sold out in 1960 and moved to Calgary where he is managing a Super City Drug Store.

I, (Hattie) received my education in Innisfail. I recall Dad and Mr. L.M. McLean being adamant about his daughter Bertha and I having our grade 12 entrance to Normal school. Grade 12 wasn't available in Innisfail at this time. Dad and Mr. McLean and a few others paid extra and we were exposed to grade 12. Through Miss Lawrence a wonderful teacher, and Captain Archer (who tutored me) I made the grade.

The first school I taught was at Grahamston. I boarded with Mrs. Mayo. She and her two sons, Sam and Ralph were so kind to me. It was Mrs. Mayo who furthered my education through her knowledge on current world problems. I taught the next year in Innisfail. Miss Dorothy Rawlinson had resigned to marry Frank Leslie and I took on her grade three class. My thirteen years or so, spent teaching in Innisfail were happy years. They were days when one could keep a child in after school hours, a child who had misbehaved or one who had an emotional problem. It was gratifying to smooth out problems in that way. A true relationship was often formed.

There were the school festivals, plays, recitations and music. It was Jennie Smith who gave of her time and helped my class to win acclaim. Mrs. J.C. Calder gave so much through her choir work in the Presbyterian Church. The plays that were put on through the efforts of the Fred Byes and Smiths were achievements of a special kind.

The Eastern Star Ball was always the highlight of the season. My class made hundreds of roses for it.



Mr. and Mrs. Jim Law.

We attended church and Rev. Peter Fisher, a fine tall scotchman with his shock of white hair was there. The church suppers were much looked forward to. I think the Presbyterians were the best cooks in the world. Chautauqua was another highlight. What excitement there was as the big tent was being set up. Everyone came from miles around. What a boon it was for those who longed for good entertainment in those days when going to the city was a rarity. We had a hockey team. What fun it was to travel by train to Bowden and Olds dressed in our finery. Those baggy bloomers! Shopping at Wests' was also interesting — Mac helped many of us — those were the days — to buy at one's leisure and have a chat at the same time.

In 1939 I taught in Didsbury and then became a Wren in the Navy (Petty Officer). I enjoyed my life in Ottawa and Montreal. In 1945, I returned to Edmonton and went to University (Pharmacy), passed my first year and decided to get married. I married Edward B. Grange, a widower with a little girl Kathleen. I enjoyed the farm in the Harmattan District. I also taught at Sundre and Harmattan. We are now living in Olds and enjoying our granddaughters — Laurel and Krista.

Jack also took his schooling in Innisfail. He became a drug traveller. He married Kay Kelly and they are now living in Vancouver. They have two children: Robert and Bonnie. Jack was in a dreadful accident in 1966. A load of lumber fell on him as he was driving in Vancouver. He was in hospital for two years.

Chester became an R.C.M.P. constable and is now semi retired in Winnipeg. He and his wife (Edna Shannon) have one son, Chris. Chester often speaks of his happy days in Innisfail. The highlight of his days in Innisfail was Tedeschini's band. They practiced for three months and then played at the Calgary Stampede. Chester wasn't a musician, he nearly drove the family and neighbors crazy with the sour notes. However, Mr. Tedeschini told the boys a box of chocolates would be awarded to the first boy who could play "God Save the King", and Chester practiced and practiced and won!

To our consternation when Chester was about 12 years old, Mother started her "social life" — card parties, curling etc. As a child one was sure to find Mother at home and the delightful aromas within — freshly baked bread and wild flowers and the smell of frozen clothes in the winter.

Dad passed away in Edmonton in December, 1949. Mother then moved to a suite in Calgary where she lived a year. In 1950 Bill and I were happy to have her live with us. She passed away in Olds, August, 1967. Both Dad and Mother are buried in the Innisfail Cemetery.

JAMES LAYDEN STORY by Norman M. Layden

James Layden Sr., was born in Perth, Ontario in 1870. His ancestry was Scotch and Irish; I mention this paternal parentage, for he retained that Irish temperament to the end of his life. He spent his early manhood in railway building, in the Great Lakes

Region, with mules to supply the power, along with picks and shovels, and strong backs and muscles. In the fall of the year he threshed with a horse-power thresher. Twelve horses walked in a circle, to provide the power to thresh the grain that had previously been cut with a cradle.

James Layden was married to Kate Potter in 1896. Soon after he and his bride began looking to new frontiers. They had heard by letter from Mr. Ennis of the opportunities in the N.W.T. Hence, the Laydens heeded the "Call of the west" as many were doing at that time. In 1898 James Layden and his wife and little daughter Matilda, with a few of their belongings loaded into a Colonization car, and headed west. The railway had been built north to Innisfail (Poplar Grove). In all, their trip from Perth to Innisfail took one week. The accomodation in the train was rugged. There were mixed nationalities, of poor people, all with one objective. A stove in the rear of the car provided heat. People brought their food and slept as best they could.

On arriving June 3, 1898 they began to search for a farm. They decided on a half section, just 2 1/2 miles east of Innisfail (presently owned by Mrs. Bowe). Mr. Layden purchased this with South African script, that had somehow come into his possession. They built a sod roofed log house, a pole shed for the horses, dug a well and broke twenty acres of land. A little later they bought a quarter section just north. As long as Mr. & Mrs. Layden lived, they observed June 3, as a family holiday.



Mr. and Mrs. Jim Layden taken at the farm in 1914.

The following year the first crop of oats was broadcast by hand, on this 20 acre field, and harrowed in. In the fall a good crop was ready for harvest. But there was no threshing machine! Mr. Layden appealed to G.W. West, to find that he was interested in this venture. Jim Layden got the loan of \$300., for freight, to bring his threshing machine out from the east. Mr. West decided to build a grain elevator, near the site of the West store, where people could sell their grain, and get a little cash. Mr. & Mrs. Jim Layden remained loyal customers of G.W. West & Son as long as they lived.

After a few years this first threshing machine was sold to Shenfields at Bowden and replaced with the



J. Layden Family. Joe, Norman, Frances, Jim, Allan, Ella, Gordon, Clarence; in front — Mrs. Layden, Matilda, Mr. Layden.

portable steam outfit. The steamer and thresher were pulled by horses. The separator was hand fed, and the straw was carried from the machine by a conveyor — no blower then! In 1905 he introduced the wind slacker in the Milnerton district. Mr. Layden and his sons threshed for many people, running late into the fall. Good food was always provided. Sometimes, quite a keen competition amongst the women insured the best meals for the threshing crew.

The farm has always been the source of our food supply, although, there were no luxuries in those days — people on the farm could always grow and raise most of their food. Clothes were harder to come by. Furs from wild animals were sometimes tanned and made into robes or coats. Flour and sugar sacks were used for many purposes around the house and for clothes. Housewives made their butter, cheese, soap, and canned meat. Extra butter was traded at 10c lb to the merchant for tea, sugar, salt etc. Later, when wheat was grown in this area, it could be taken to the flour mill and made into flour, bran and porridge.

Mr. & Mrs. Layden's first three sons, namely, Joe, Jim and Clarence were born on the farm near Innisfail. In 1902, the family made another move. A Mr. Sam Currie arrived in Innisfail and offered \$1300. to take over the Layden property. This was accepted and the transaction meant finding another location. Mr. Layden rode east as far as the Red Deer River looking for a desired location. There were no roads, just trails across country. But he liked the beautiful valley drained by the Three Hills Creek, which later became known as the Milnerton District. Here Mr. Layden homesteaded and took another quarter by pre-emption at \$3.00 per acre. This land still remains in the Layden family. On one occasion, Mr. Layden went to Calgary, sat at the door of the "Land Titles office", along with a line up of other men, two days, to get a piece of land he especially wanted.

It was here, Milnerton, that the other six Layden's children were born, namely: Ella, Frances, Norman, Allan, Gordon and Wilfred (Wilfred died during infancy). In 1915 Matilda married the late Mr. Albert Hibbert. She resides in Innisfail. Joe married Susan Kelly. Both are deceased. Jim married Ethel Kleven. They are retired and live in Red Deer. Clarence

married Annie Flinn and resides in Innisfail. Ella married Manson Kelly (deceased). She resides in Edmonton. Frances is a missionary in Japan. Norman married Mildred Taylor. Allan, now deceased married Ella Bell and Gordon married Evelyn Marks. Ella resides in Innisfail and the Norman and Gordon Layden families still reside on some of the original Layden land; Gordon on the home-site.

The first neighbors of the Laydens were Mr. & Mrs. Champ. After moving to Milnerton were Mr. Charles Peters, Mr. Milner, the George Thurstons, the Bernard Hibberts, the George Weirs, and the Mike Waltons.

Mr. Layden's pride and joy were his Shire and Clydesdale horses and Shorthorn cattle. Many of these at different times went into the show rings. Some of his horses went overseas for use during W.W.I to pull cannons.

In 1914 he grew his first wheat — a field of about 40 acres. — and it was a successful crop.

The Milnerton Fair was held annually on the Ernest Schenk Farm, and it provided much interest and entertainment for the community. The local schools were the centres of most of their pleasures, with the annual picnics, Christmas Concerts, dances, card parties, and church services.

On one occasion, during the years of the depression, Mr. Layden and one of his sons were taking a load of pigs to market. One pig jumped out. They wondered whether to stop and catch and reload the pig. Mr. Layden said, "Let it go. It's only worth \$1.65 per hundred weight — even if it grades bacon".

Mr. Layden's family all attended the Calder School. One teacher, Miss Alma Whealon, is outstanding in their memory. Some of the early settlers that remain in our memory are Mr. Chas Peters, who had the Milnerton Post office, later operated by Mr. Thurston along with the Milnerton Telephone Central. Mr. Peters was also the local blacksmith. Mr. George Thurston in emergencies did some dentistry. Mr. Hibbert did veterinary work.

The Layden home was very often the Half-Way-House for travellers going from Innisfail to Trochu. Several teams and wagons might be seen trekking across country following the prairie trail. Mr. & Mrs. Layden along with their good neighbors were able to

successfully survive the pioneering trails, and the depression. The Layden family branched out into many different occupations, but they remained loyal lovers of the land. Matilda (Hibbert) family — see Hibbert Story. Joe raised six children: Gerald, Melvin, Lyle, Iris, Phyllis and Gordon. Jim raised five children: Earl, Robert, Douglas, Ivor and Carol. Clarence raised six children: Wilfred, Eileen, Verdie, Gertrude, Doris and Raymond. Ella has three children: Frances, James and Norman. Norman has three children: Norman Leon, Wayne and Merle. Allan has five children James, Laurence, Pat, Frank and Maurice. Gordon has three sons: Kenneth, Merwin and Larry.

The family was raised in the Knee Hill Valley District. Mr. Layden kept adding to his holdings until 1940 and left a legacy of land to each of his children. In his day, he played an active part in progress, made the most of what he had and was ready to accept opportunities for improvement. Mr. Layden's happy disposition and sense of humor helped them all to survive and succeed through problems or prosperity.

Mrs. Layden died July 30, 1940; Mr. Layden died June 4, 1941. They were laid to rest in the Innisfail Cemetery. The children and grandchildren remain mainly in Alberta, anywhere along the line from Grimshaw to Lethbridge.

MRS. EVELYN LAYDEN remembers when

— two Miss Yoemans' and their brother lived across from the Creamery. They were quite eccentric and sometimes would go "up town" with a shoe on one foot and a rubber on the other

— Mr. Foley, the watchmaker. He had rooms above the Alberta Cafe. He walked around the country repairing watches and clocks.

— Mr. George Walker, the harness maker. He would often be out walking with his hounds.

— Carpenters who lived near us. Frank Carpenter cared for the "fire team" and emptied the outside "biffys".

— Innisfail had a "town pasture" at one time. It is now a corner of the cemetery. A number of families, including ours, paid so much for pasturing there.

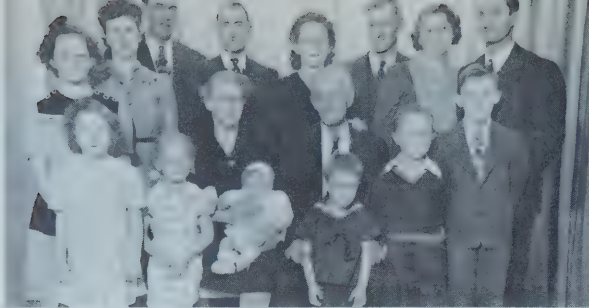
THE LEACH FAMILY by Olive Schaefer

Mr. Menira Leach was born Feb. 23, 1878 and came to this country in 1903 from Lexington, Nebraska, to homestead the quarter section of land where the Prairie Bible Institute is situated. In the spring of 1904, when the snow had gone, he found the land covered with rocks, so gave it up and returned to Oregon. In July 1905 Mr. Leach returned to Alberta to make his home in Bowden; then later moved to Innisfail. His brother Leslie had accompanied him on the first trip but did not come the second time.

Mr. Leach was a carpenter, but because times were hard, he worked on farms on threshing crews and just about anything else he could find to do. For some time he farmed on the Alex Davison Sr. farm and also worked for Mr. Kent. On March 3, 1909 he married Mary Turner Davidson. Rev. Allen, the Presbyterian



James Layden's steam thresher (Case) threshing at Hibberts in 1909.



Menira Leach Family. Back row: Nita Blask, Myrtle, Scott, Alex, Olive, Fred, Rhoda, Robert. Center: Mary and Menira Leach; front row: Dianne Leach, Carolanne Schaefer, Vernon Schaefer, Tex Leach, Paul Schaefer, Bobby Leach.

minister performed the ceremony at the bride's home. Best man was George Sinclair and the bridesmaid was Isabelle Davidson, her sister.

In 1917 they moved to Innisfail until the end of the war. Some buildings he built were: the big barn on the Brian Johnson farm; the Oklahoma School; the Niobe School; and a school at Pine Lake. He worked for Abe Hinds (contractor) on the Innisfail hospital 1926-1927; the Innisfail Hotel and the Durham house in the Aberdeen district.

They had six children:

Alex Leach — born 1909; died 1962.

Robert Leach — born October 17, 1911. He married Rhoda Ross. They have one son, Robert, and live in Victoria, B.C.

Scott Leach — born June 23, 1913. He makes his home in Whitehorse, Yukon. He married Myrtle Bestul in 1939. They have 1 girl, 1 boy.

Eva — born March 22, 1916, died Mar. 4, 1938. She married Viggo Jergensen; 2 girls.

Isabelle — born Nove. 4, 1917, died Mar. 4, 1919.

Olive — born Oct. 26, 1919; married Fred Schaefer in 1938. We have two sons and one daughter.

Menira L. Leach Feb. 23, 1878 — Jan. 31, 1956

Mary Turner Leach November 28, 1889 — Jan. 10, 1970

Internment in Innisfail Cemetery

ANDREW "ANDY" LENNOX by Barbara Freeman

Mr. Andrew Lennox was born in St. John's, Newfoundland on Nov. 26, 1886. He came west to Calgary first and in a few years moved to Innisfail in 1909. The brother of Charlie Rummen told him of the lovely little town of Innisfail and of the possible job there in the hardware. He took the train north to have a look and felt at home right away.

He had a good association with J.T. Rogers and worked there for many years. In the tinshop he made pails, cream cans, wash boilers and stove pipes and elbows. The galvanized sheet metal used and the tin plate was shipped from Wales to Innisfail as it was better quality than that available from the States. He made about 200 cream cans and several hundred pails each winter. They sold at 40c a dozen for pails and \$2 per dozen for wash boilers or cream cans. His board and room cost \$5 per week including washing.

In 1917 he bought his own business — heating and plumbing — and also the retailing of household appliances. He was the agent for Delco lights. He served the area until he retired at age 78.

In the early years he chummed with Charlie Rummen and Charlie Gray and was very active in sports of all kinds. In 1910 he married Esther Barbara Schaefer and they celebrated their Golden Wedding while still living happily in Innisfail.

Esther Lennox was born in Minnesota and attended University in Hamlin. She taught school for a few years before her marriage. They were both charter members of the Eastern Star and Esther was a faithful I.O.D.E. worker. She taught Sunday School for nearly fifty years and worked in every way she could for the good of the town. Andrew was a Mason and was treasurer of the church for many years. He was an enthusiastic sportsman playing badminton, tennis and curling.



Andrew Lennox, taken July 1, 1910.

There were four children: Andrew (killed in action during World War II); Barbara (Freeman), living in Edmonton with children John and Sue; Susan (Dempster) living in Oakville with children John, Cynthia and Mary; Mary (Holand), a doctor, now living in Ottawa and working for the Food and Drug section of the government.

Innisfail was and is a town of many talents. Mrs. Dr. Dorsey introduced many children and adults to drama and was a very good elocution teacher. Mr. Tedeschini introduced many of the children to musical instruments and we enjoyed fame for our Boy's Band. Our musical students passed the same exams as children in the large cities and did very well by comparison. Mrs. Harold Smith taught for many years and several students took university degrees under Mabel Soderman's guiding hand. Many children learned the national dances in the Marchant School and Betty (Percy) herself has contributed greatly in this way and is still teaching. I'm glad I lived there as I grew up. Susan and Barbara Lennox both got their A.T.C.M. and L.R.S.M. degrees in music while we lived in Innisfail. Susan Lennox spent three years as a music teacher with the Ethiopian Government in Addis Ababa.



Taken about 1911. Butchering pigs. L. to R. McMullen, Hector McFadyen, Walter McFadyen, A. Lennox, J. Rogers.

Esther, the year following her Golden Wedding celebration, became seriously ill and lived for five years in a hospital in Calgary. Andrew visited his wife twice a week for all this time and his great tenderness and kindness will be long remembered by many who were aware of the tragedy. She died in June 1966, buried in Innisfail. Andy now resides in Autumn Glen Lodge, Innisfail.

JOHN J. LETCHER FAMILY by the Letcher family

The Letcher family, consisting of John J. (Jack), his wife Elizabeth Mary, son John C. (Johnnie), and daughters Thelma and Muriel settled at Innisfail in the spring of 1919. They arrived here by train from the Banff-Canmore district where Jack had been employed as a Game Warden with the Rocky Mountain Canadian National Park.

Jack was born in Springhill, Nova Scotia, January 11, 1887 and on May 23, 1907 he married Elizabeth Mary McKay at Springhill.

Upon arriving in Innisfail they purchased a half section of farm land from the Wade family, along the correction line directly across the road from the old Grahamston school.

Grahamston was fairly well settled in 1919 and some of the neighbors included: John Carr family, Schroeder family, Cunninghams, William Emrichs, Charles Tolley family, Murgatroyds, Mrs. Wade (widowed), Hodges, Tom Simpson and the Robert Kerr family who came with the Letcher family from Banff.

That first summer on the farm was spent on the north quarter in a large tent with 4 foot board walls and a floor. Later on in the fall the new house was completed on the south quarter and everyone rejoiced with the move to new quarters. (This house was replaced in 1937).

During the early 20's, farm lands were slowly being cleared. The farm was fairly heavily treed, except for the coulee, and this all had to be cleared out with an axe and later the rest with a brush cutter. It was while clearing brush that Jack had one eye injured and lost the sight in that eye. Tractors were slowly coming into use but the main power was draft horses with most farms having upwards of a dozen or so. As the

majority of farms were of one half section or three quarters it was a common sight every spring day to see horses being used; in tandem or four abreast, pulling plows, discs, seed drills etc. The more affluent farmers had tractors and also larger land holdings.

Automobiles, the old Model T. Fords, were appearing on the scene in 1920-25 but were scarce enough so as not to cause too much inconvenience. Roadways were slightly crowned, but were not gravelled, so that travel by car was always quite a challenge in rainy weather.

In reminiscing, one most always reflects back to recreation times. On a farm where one worked from dawn to dusk everyday, the recreation consisted mainly with the younger people attending country dances, often called hoe-downs, box socials and whist drives. There were no community centres outside of the towns so consequently every country school house was used three or four times a year. People travelled mostly by team or horseback those early days. It was nothing to have six or eight couples arrive at a school dance in a sleigh, even with weather below zero. A few inches of hay, several blankets and your favorite partner was very exciting, especially if the trip lasted an hour or so each way. Dances would probably not break up until about 5 a.m. The one orchestra for these events that comes to mind was that of the Brandt family from west of Innisfail. They played somewhere nearly every Friday night and had to travel as much as 20 miles, also using sleighs. Recreation also consisted of many ball games and large picnics. Jack used to referee many of the ball games.

Some of the first teachers at Grahamston were Miss Etheridge (who later became Mrs. Leo Foster), Miss Dorothy Rawlinson (who later became Mrs. Frank Leslie and very well known in Innisfail), and Mrs. Bassett who came from England.

In the late fall of 1926 the Letcher family, then consisting of two additional children, Kathleen and Granville, rented the farm and moved to Drumheller where Jack was in business for approximately 2 years, returning to the farm in the late fall of 1928. When they returned to the farm they brought with them Reta (the baby of the family as Jack always called her).



Mr. Jack Letcher.



Mrs. Jack Letcher



Letcher's first home.

Both Jack and Elizabeth Letcher were very interested in their community and Innisfail. In active life Jack was a successful miner, game warden, farmer, real estate and insurance agent. He was one of the organizers and charter Secretary of the Central Albert Hereford Club from 1944 to 1960, active in the Masonic Lodge from 1928-1954, rising to District Deputy Grand Master, President of the Innisfail Branch of the Royal Legion 1938-39-40 and was manager of eight local stampedes sponsored by the Legion. Jack was also chairman of the Grahamston School Board for many years.

In W.W.I, Jack served as Drum Major with the 82nd and 54th Battalions, seeing action in Belgium and France. He was wounded and gassed and invalided home in 1918.

Born to Jack and Elizabeth Letcher were eight children: Leslie (May, 1908-1912) buried in the Banff Cemetery.; John C. — now living at Burnaby, B.C.; Thelma (Mrs. Ben Russell, residing at Penticton, B.C.; Muriel (Mrs. Ralph Bookless) of Olds, Alta.; Kathleen (Mrs. George Calvert), residing at Calgary. Granville of Innisfail; Jean 1925-1926 buried in the Innisfail Cemetery; Reta (Mrs. Jack McGibbon) of Innisfail.

After a very full, active and successful life, July 14, 1967 Jack passed away and on September 20, 1967 Elizabeth passed away. Interrment in the Innisfail Cemetery.

They left us with many happy memories of our family life together.

FREDERICK TONGE LEVICK

Frederick Tonge Levick came to Canada in 1892 from England with his daughter Annie (age 16) and younger children Jessie, William, and Fred Henry who was known as Dick. His wife, Sarah, had died in 1891. He left his two youngest daughters in England. Eleanor (Nora) was adopted out and Dorothy stayed with relatives until she was eleven years old at which time she came to Canada in Sept. 1901.



Dorothy, Harry (Dick), and Annie Levick.

On arriving in Canada, F.T. Levick settled in Calgary and went into the tanning business. His daughter Annie married John Brown Jr. in 1893 and moved to Innisfail. Daughter Jessie went to work for Mr. & Mrs. James Stephen in Calgary. When Mrs. Stephen died, Jessie married Mr. Stephen and bore two sons — Jim and Jack.

In March 1900 Mr. Levick purchased the farm of Mrs. Graibelle near Innisfail and immediately moved there with sons Will and Dick and began farming. In November 1900 Mr. Levick married Belle Stuart. Three children were born of this marriage — Stuart, Morley, and Charlie. The property that F.T. Levick bought from Mrs. Graibelle is now owned by James Brown, younger son of Hugh Brown. F.T. Levick died May 2, 1905 and is buried in an unmarked grave in Innisfail.

THE LEWIS FAMILY by W.J. Lewis

James Lewis was born in England and at an early age went to the United States. He worked as a hired hand until he met my mother. Then they went homesteading in Nebraska. He heard of the cheap land available in Canada and they decided to give it a try. With a small family of three sons and two other couples they emigrated to Alberta. Those coming with them were the Camerons and Elwoods.

Upon their arrival in Innisfail the first men he met were George E. Bryan, the station agent, and G.W. West, the general merchant. It was in 1904.



Mr. and Mrs. James Lewis taken in 1896.

Dad first rented land in the Grahamston district. This farm is now owned by Keith Manuel. They later homesteaded in the Spruce View area. Here he built a log house with one room and it had a sod roof. During a particularly bad hailstorm this roof came off and we had to shovel the hail out of the house. This house was sheltering five of us. We started to break land using a walking plough. It was a big occasion when we were able to buy a tractor.

I received my education at Dickson and Spruce View schools. Markerville was our first Post office and it was in 1909 that Mr. Christianson started a

store at Dickson (This is still in operation today, with son Gordon owner).

We raised cattle and also feeder cattle. I remember the time we walked to Innisfail behind 150 head because the road was so bad it was the only way to get them to market. The cattle often went into the mud the full length of their legs on this trip.

We used to sell dressed pigs to G.W. West for 3c lb.

In 1906-07 it was a severe cold winter and father hauled 1500 ft. of lumber in each load with a two horse team to Innisfail from the saw mill for \$2.50 per thousand. He would make three of these trips a week. It was also when it was cold that we would saw wood inside the house with a bucksaw.



Mr. Jim Lewis and Phil Lewis

We boys trapped muskrats in Martin Lake and these skins brought from 9c to 80c. Two more children were born, Alfred and my sister Bessie. Mother passed away when Bessie was only three weeks old in 1919.

Our family consisted of: Philip, born in 1898; William born in 1900; Chester born in 1903 (dec); George, born in 1907; Alfred, born in 1914; and Bessie (Mrs. A. Gundersen) was born in 1919.

Phil worked for Ed Kenny for a long time and Alfred worked at Wests' candling eggs at one time.

Ivy and I were married in 1924 and we have four children: Jim at Ft. St. John, married Irene Millar and they have two daughters. Bob farms in partnership with us. He married Bernice Hillman and they have six children. George is employed by Hudson Bay Oil & Gas. He married Helen Kappel and they have three children. Jean married Bill Delaney and they have three sons.

I recall that recreation in the early days was going to dances. We had a good driving team and distance was no hinderance, in fact, we danced all night and worked all day. Money was scarce and I worked on ranches to get a little extra cash.

As the country grew and prospered so did we and now enjoy living on the Home Farm and having our son Bob and his wife and family with us.

JAMES EDWARD LEWIS by Hugh C. Lewis

My Dad, James Edward Lewis, came to the Oklahoma District, west of Innisfail, in 1900. He was born April 1877 in Chatham, Ontario and at an early age left home to find work in Montana, U.S.A., where he remained for a few years. He came alone to take up a homestead in 1900, travelling by covered wagon and horses. He said the trip took him all summer; the crossing was made at Coutts, Alberta.

Upon arriving at the homestead, he built a cabin and broke some land. He then left to work out for the necessary cash for more breaking and purchase of stock, working at lumber camps, road building, and railroad work. He joined construction workers who poured into Frank, Alberta in the early 1900's as a building boom was taking place. A spur line of the C.P.R. was being built as well as places of business, hotels, schools, and sidewalks. Dad was in Frank on April 28, 1903, when Turtle Mountain came down.

James Edward Lewis married Mary Wilkie Robertson on July 2, 1904 at Innisfail; Alta. They were married by the Rev. Geo. Webber. Mother was born in 1876 in Paisley, Scotland. Her parents, Mr. & Mrs. Wm. Robertson and family of three girls and four boys came to the Oklahoma district about 1902. Their homestead was for years the official Gleniffer Post Office.

From their first cabin, Mother and Dad moved into a larger one and finally to a frame home which Dad worked on for a few years before the family moved into it in 1918.

Their family was five boys:

David — who married Marjorie Dunk; live in the Oklahoma district.

Bill — married Claire Bowen; Bill (William) died in 1952. Claire resides in Edmonton.

Hugh — married Ethel Hileman in 1937; after living in the Oklahoma district for years, and then in the Big Bend district. We recently sold our farm in Big Bend after 27 years of farming there and now reside in Innisfail. Our four girls are — Marilyn, (Carroll), Barbara (Kelly), Joan (Scarlett), Pat Lewis.

Edward — married Stella Manuel. Edward died in 1967 and Stella & family live in Little Red Deer district.

With the death of Mother's sister, Mrs. Robert Sharpe, mother took her baby, James, into our home. James married Enid Rowan and they live in the Oklahoma district. Edward Lewis and James Sharpe



Mr. and Mrs. Lewis, David and William, Mrs. Lewis' two sisters and Brose Vreeland.

joined the Air Force in late 1940. They trained at Bowden, High River, Fort McLeod, Edmonton, and then Ed went east to Mont Joli, Quebec. He was an Air Gunner in 1942-43; then a Sgt. Instructor ending with a W.O.I. insignia. James was an electrician in the Air Force. They were discharged in late 1945.

For recreation we went fishing, hunting, and swimming and played baseball. For years Dad took us up west to hunt big game. It took three to four days to travel then by team and wagon. We slept in tents with a wood camp stove for heating and cooking. Sometimes the temperature reached 57° below zero. Dad looked forward to these trips and went until he was past seventy years of age. Now hunters go in the comfort of a truck and use good roads.

Mother churned butter and made it into prints which were taken to G.W. West's store to trade for groceries. Also loads of wood and telephone poles were sold.



Mr. Lewis feeding wild geese in the Oklahoma district.

We took schooling at the Oklahoma School. We walked nearly two miles the first years of school because we didn't have enough horses to ride. We got leave of absence for seeding and harvest when we were needed at home. My teachers were: Miss Shantz, Miss Giolma, Miss J. Peering, Miss Mosby, Miss Redding, Mr. Ralphe Cook, and Miss Campbell, — the present Mrs. Tom Duncan. School mates were: Mary, David and Susan Laird; Jack and James Bird; Mary, Ethel, Margaret and John Robertson; Lillian and Frances Calder; Jess, Louise, Robert and Russel Sandborn; Amanda and Edward Gloer; Irvine, Charles and Malcolm Abraham; Joe Freeman, Brian and Molly Kelly; Harold, Allan, Luther and Fred Newsham; Leola Sutherland; Stan, Clarence, Harold Michiel; Everett Clark; Helen Holmes; Gilbert, Agnes and Bessie Hocken and Montral Cheshire.

Mother and Dad, like all pioneers, worked very hard. Mother was always doing the milking and other chores during harvest before we boys had a chance to get back to do them. Mother especially enjoyed a visit with Mrs. Varty (who liked partridge). One day when she planned on going into town, she asked us to get a partridge for her to take in but before we got around to it, one flew into the back porch and mother caught it and wrung its neck.

Our worst hardship in the early days was getting in and out to town. We boys seldom got to town except

on the Orangemen's holiday and later when there were the good stampedes held each year. They didn't molly-coddle the kids in those days. Once during harvest Jim and Ed were still loading when Hugh went to the river for a drink. He came back with a bear following him and his Dad only crippled it with his first shot. The bear disappeared over the hill into the bush. Dad sent Jim and Ed after it and Ed shot and finished him off. Thoughts of possible mauling never occurred. We often rode horses in the river just to see which horse was the best swimmer. Some swam so low we had water up to our necks and others swam so high, if we didn't balance just right, they'd tip over — it's a wonder someone didn't drown. Dad got his first car, a Model T, second hand and then a Model A new about 1930. We boys at home at that time used to say "One car between the four of us, Thank God there were no more of us."

Mother passed away of a heart attack in 1947 at the age of 71 years. Dad followed in 1950 at the age of 73 years. They are interred in the Innisfail Cemetery. William Lewis died in 1952 and his body was cremated. The urn was buried on the bank of the Red Deer River. Edward died in May 24, 1967 on his 46th birthday. He is buried in the Field of Honor, Innisfail Cemetery.

THE JOHN LEWIS FAMILY by Mrs. Lillian Schaefer

At the turn of the century many of our gallant pioneers faced hardships, cold, and loneliness to make their home in a new land. The Innisfail district got their fair share of these people and their years of toil and accomplishments are woven into the fabric of the West. We are a much richer community because of their labours.

One of these pioneer settlers was Mr. John Lewis, who at the age of 16, left his Staffordshire, England home to settle in York County, Nebraska. He arrived in Innisfail in 1903. He filed on his homestead which was about 17 or 18 miles southeast of the town of Innisfail on NE 4-34-27-4.

Four months later he was joined by a very weary wife and mother who had travelled all the way from York County, Nebraska, U.S.A. with four small children, one of whom was quite ill with whooping cough. The eldest was 9 years of age. When Mrs. Lewis had to change trains at St. Paul, Minn., she left



L. to R.: Fay J. Lewis; Earle Lewis and Leland Lewis.



L. to R.: Mrs. Norma Smith, Mrs. Era Baker, Mrs. Lillian Schaefer and Mrs. Myrtle Knecht.

her four children huddled together on suit cases and baggage while she walked some distance to procure tickets to Innisfail for the children and herself. She was happy to find them still there together when she returned. The four children were Victor Earle, Fay James, Leland Stanford, and Lillian Leone. When they arrived in Innisfail, their new home was a suite of rooms upstairs in the Oldham Block. They remained there for four months until Mr. Lewis got his house built for his family. The house still stands today on the homestead in the Mayton district.

As time went on, three more children were added to their family: Myrtle Evelyn, Norma Ilene, and Era Marie.

Mr. and Mrs. Lewis spent most of their lives on their homestead except for their retirement years which were spent in Olds, Alberta. Mr. John Lewis passed away on May 13, 1942. Mrs. Edna Lewis died on Sept. 15, 1947. They were laid to rest in the Innisfail Cemetery.

The remaining members of the Lewis family are Mrs. Era Baker of Spokane, Wash., Mrs. Norma Smith of Olds, Mrs. Myrtle Knecht of High Prairie, and Mrs. Lillian Schaefer of Innisfail.

CARL AUGUST WILHELM LIND

I was born at Wheaton, Minn. March 17, 1887. My father was a farmer who came from Sweden in 1882. He had 7 children, three of them being born in Sweden. He came to America because he wished to homestead and felt that this country would give his family more opportunities.

Father became ill and we were hauled out and it was generally very tough going. Through the real estate man we found out there was a boom for land going on in Saskatchewan. So, after being there for 21 years, Father sold his farm (200 acres), cleared his debts and came eventually to the Moose Jaw area in 1903. We came with two car loads of settlers' effects including horses, cattle, machinery and a dog. I was only 15 at the time and so couldn't file on land until I was 18.

I recall in 1917 one brother, two sisters and I decided that we would like to see Banff. So we went in our Model T. It was really beautiful. We boys decided to go on up to Peace River. The girls retur-

ned home via train. Another boy friend had joined us who had filed on a homestead at Peace River, this being the reason we all wanted to see what it was like. We got to Edmonton and inquired about going to Peace River — the answer we got was "You can't drive to Peace River in the summer — you have to wait till the muskeg freezes over." So — determined to go, we went by train to the Peace River crossing. Upon investigation, we found the freight rates were really high in the northland plus water was very hard to get. We decided home was best and so back to Moose Jaw we went.

This trip through had shown me what Alberta was like and I finally decided that Alberta was where I would like to farm. In 1920 I met my brother in Calgary got his car and came to Innisfail. In 1921 I was in MacLeans' Real Estate office here and he showed me around and I decided to buy Mr. Banners' land, in the Buffalo Creek District.



Carl Lind Family

I brought my farm animals and machinery to Innisfail by means of 2 Canadian Pacific Railway freight cars which I had to load and unload. The livestock was 2 registered Percheron mares, 4 other horses, three cows and three calves which were registered Shorthorns. The machinery was all horse-drawn types.

It was in 1929, June 27 that I married Robertina (Bertha) MacKay. She had come from Scotland 17 years earlier with her parents, nine sisters and two brothers.

The 1930's were bad going for nearly everyone, but really we in our area were not as unfortunate as many in more southern parts of the Province and in Saskatchewan. Oats were 10c per bus. and this was our biggest crop. Wheat was 21c bus. By the time we got the crops off and paid for the necessities we found we had nothing left to live on. I recall we did get credit from G.W. West, but always were able to pay our accounts each year. I was still paying Mr. Banner for the land and one year we raised turkeys to be able to pay him a total of \$31.00 that year. We were fortunate however, as Mr. Banner had built a new house on the land I bought in 1919 and had some sheds for

animals. I always believed animals must be inside and so made a straw shed for the cattle.

I always liked to dance and because I had friends in the Little Red Deer district, too, I would often go there as well. One time Jack and Bill Phillips came over and said a dance should be held in my house. I agreed providing they looked after getting the music, lunch and crowd. Neil Cameron played the violin for the occasion and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves. Johnny Hill used to play often at the school for dances with his violin. It was later that the school board bought an old organ and then we really did have music for dances — a violin and an organ.

I bought my first tractor, a second hand one, from Garnet Oxley. It was in 1941 that I bought a 4 foot International combine from Ted Nance.

My first neighbors and friends were the W.J. Millers (he threshed for me for 19 consecutive years), the McDougalls, Testers, S.E. Wood, John, Gordon and Bob Phillips, Don Manuel, Camerons, Donovans and the Browns. Hugh and I were very good friends.

I served time on the Buffalo Creek school board when Mrs. Annie Miller was Secretary. I was a director of the Calf Club along with W.J. Edgar. We were always active in the United Church. My wife belonged to the Buffalo Creek Sewing club for many years. We all looked forward to the Big Buffalo Creek picnics where great fun was had by all.

Until 1937 horses were the only sources of power to drive the grain grinder — and run farm machinery. We had power come in from Calgary Power in 1928. A new barn was built in 1938. I was always very proud and interested in Percheron horses and I raised and sold some. The black horses that Billy McGhee used to have on his dray I had raised. I kept horses on the farm until 1954 and I traded in horses on the International tractor then.

We have been blessed with a son (John Carl) and a daughter (Helen Bertha) Helen Married A.R. Wedin and lives in Ponoka. They have two children: Kenneth & Cheryl. John is on the farm which we named the Lincrest Farm.

Prior to 1959 a few cows were milked and eighty to ninety hens provided both food and marketable produce. However, the poultry business never did boom again after Bertha's gander laid an egg. All our crops since 1940 have been combined by John, Bob Donner and me.

On looking back through the years I can say that the best thing that ever happened to me was when I got Bertha.

GEORGE LLEWELLYN FAMILY by L.J. Llewellyn

George Llewellyn married Theresa Alice Dore from Birmingham, England and they came to Toronto, Ontario in 1905 on their honeymoon. George was born in Colwyn Bay, North Wales in 1880. In Toronto, George worked at his trade as a stone cutter; then in 1911 moved with his wife and two children to Calgary. Sons Dave and Lewis were born in Toronto and daughter Ethel was born in Calgary. George worked as a stone cutter in Calgary

on the Calgary Brewery, Price-Jones Building, St. Regis Hotel, and many others. One of his special jobs was the carving of the stone around the clocks of Calgary's City Hall.

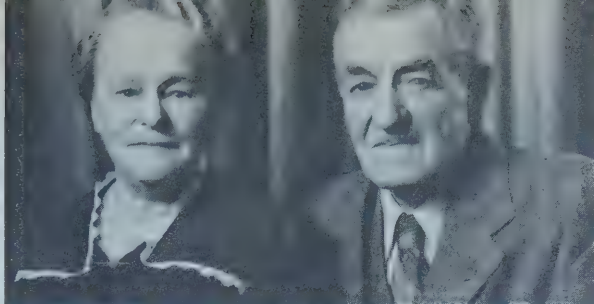
George served with the Army from 1914-18 as a First Class Baker and Sergeant Cook. In the fall of 1919 he decided he would like to try farming and came to Innisfail to look at land west of town. He rented a 22 gun from S.A. Fox of the Innisfail Hardware so he could combine the pleasure of some hunting with his business; then walked across the snow-covered ground through the Rosmond Farm to the Dr. Frith farm (now owned by J. S. Morrow), which he eventually purchased. (Unfortunately the snow covered the real state of things and George believed there was much more land broken than there actually was.)

In March 1920 the family came to Innisfail in the box car with their belongings, a team of grey geldings and a saddle pony. It was a late spring with much snow. At Innisfail they hitched the team to the wagon (they had no sleigh) and with much difficulty made their way through the snow to their farm. Dr. Frith's brother, Joshua, and his family, had been living on the farm and had not yet vacated, so the Llewellyns had to move in on top of them, and they lived together all winter. The Frith's daughter, Annabelle-Lee, was very nervous — Dave and I mimicked and teased her which made for some lively times.

George's deal with Frith had included the purchase of thirteen milk cows to supply milk and cream to feed the family and provide some income. The spring of 1920 was one of the worst — there were snow storms as late as May. The cows were in poor shape for lack of food and before the good weather and the grass came, ten cows were lost. The Friths had 100 head of sheep to be fed as well as our cows. Dr. George Stanton-Holmes, the veterinarian at that time, did everything he could to help but it was a lean winter for the Llewellyns. George rigged up a gas engine and power saw and hauled wood to town at \$2.00 a sleigh box — Gordon Micheil came and sawed lumber. There were trees along the creek 30" across that provided much lumber. George also made a deal with Frank Cole to trap as many beaver as he could at \$18 to \$20 a hide.

It seems to me that the winters were very severe when we first came to Innisfail. 1920 was one of the worst and the longest. It wasn't until later years that fruit such as raspberries could be grown as they would winter kill. The winter of 1924 had snow over the fences and it was almost impossible to pull off the road to pass another sleigh or cutter and the horses would flounder in the deep snow. In those days the cars were put up on blocks at the first snow fall.

Our closest neighbors were the John Phillips family who lived just across Buffalo Creek. Charlie, Bessie, Bill, Gordon, Jim and Bob Phillips were real good friends, as were H.E. Shenfield's children — Connie, Jean, and Jack; and Ewan Simpson's Helen, Marg., Isobel and Marion. John Wilson Sr. lived on the old Rosmond place (now Dan Rosentrator's) and Carl



Mr. and Mrs. George Llewellyn

Lind was on the South. We rode horseback into school and I can remember T.M. Sage's dogs jumping at us when we crossed by his place. I went to school with Alan Dea, the young boy brought up by the Dea sisters.

Dave and I joined the Boy Scouts about 1920 when Paul Careau, a bachelor working as a surveyor with the Provincial Government, started the group. I went as far as Rover Scouts. Mr. Careau lived in the little house still standing on the corner of 47th street across from the Arena and we held many of our meetings there. I remember having trouble with the fire-lighting test as we were allowed only one match and mine went out before the fire caught. Later we built a little log shack in the bush up near where Margaret Wilson now lives near Stramit. My mother embroidered a beautiful pennant with crossed flags and the name of the Troop that we carried at meetings and in parades. Dick Percy was a scout with us at the time.

I attended the old brick school in Innisfail from 1920 to 1924 when I took rheumatic fever and never went back to school. After recovering from the fever, I hired out to George Calder on his farm for a year, and he and his wife were like father and mother to me. It was during 1924 that Geo. Calder and Hugh Brown, with their teams, had contracted the hauling of the materials to build the present bridge over the Red Deer river west of town, and this was why I was hired to do Mr. Calder's farm chores. I can remember during harvest running an unofficial race down the field with the crew working across the fence on W.J. Edgar's.

It was through the Calder's that I met Andy Lennox. In 1925 he persuaded me to come and work for him. He was a good man to work for and I was with him for 15 years. In 1939 I left him and started in business for myself. My son Don has been in business with me for 5 years and is now a 1st Class plumber and my brother Dave has been with me for the last 2 years.

Dave drove for the Alpha Dairy in Red Deer for years. He married Peggy Ditchburn and they had six children: G. David, Joyce, Peggy-Anne, Billy, Dorothy and Gwen (dec.). Dave and Peggy are known across the continent by short wave radio and have just received an award for outstanding service in this field.

Our sister, Ethel Llewellyn, married Brian Kelly; they had two children, Zoe and Lynn. Ethel is deceased.

Lewis J. Llewellyn married Beatrice Niblock. We had six children: John (deceased at 13 mos.), Joan, Norma, Janet, Donald and Ruth.

About 1927 Dad opened and ran a bakery in town next to the old Legion building for about four years. Many of the English settlers enjoyed coming into the bakery for afternoon tea — I can remember the Morris' and Mrs. Hamond Gates. In the late 40's Dad left the farm and came to live in the town.

Alice Llewellyn died on Sept. 13, 1958. George Llewellyn died on Dec. 16, 1960. Both are buried in the Innisfail Cemetery.

Advertisement: 1906

The Conservatives are Liberal — in praise of Ferys' Seeds.

The Liberals are conservative in still giving them preference before other seeds.

ROBERT LOCKHART FAMILY by Mrs. Ethel (Lockhart) Smith

Robert Lockhart was born in Scotland in 1878. He was the oldest of a large family having come with his parents to Manitoba when he was five years old.

He came West to look for land and to make a home for his wife, Gertie and their eight children: Merlin (12), Bert (11), Ruby (10), Wesley (8), Ethel (7), Dora (5), Archie (4) and Myrtle (3). They arrived in Innisfail in January, 1917. Dad had bought the quarter section now owned by Doug Drummond (two miles southwest of Innisfail). We brought some settlers' effects in a freight car. I, Ethel, remember sister Dora having an ear ache for days on the train. Before leaving Manitoba, Mother made nice tweed suits for the boys and we girls got new pink and blue dresses and new hair-ribbons. We left with sadness at leaving our Grandmother there and we never saw her again.

Where we lived in Manitoba, it was very flat land and Dora was afraid to walk down a little hill when we got here, but it wasn't long before we were sleigh riding. One sleigh ride I remember so well was when I didn't steer too well and crashed into Dad's newly made water trough and loosened several of Myrtle's front teeth.

Close neighbors when we moved here were Mr. and Mrs. E.H. Dennis. They once sent their nephew over for Dad as they were trying to harness and hook up a team of horses and having difficulties. When Dad got there Mrs. Dennis had the Eaton Catalogue out in the yard trying to show Mr. Dennis where the lines went. The Neil Camerons were good neighbors to us as well.

We children attended the Buffalo Creek School where Louise Tester and Aggie Moffat were the teachers. We would go cross country nearly four miles to school. Later we attended Gordon School; here, the two older ones had to work and only attended in the winter. We would go to Sunday School in Innisfail by travelling up the railroad tracks. The



Mrs. Lockhart, Myrtle, Mr. Lockhart, Archie, and Dora.

train man used to throw us off large bundles of comics for which we were most grateful.

I remember a Christmas concert at Buffalo Creek School where verses were being recited. Archie was nearly the best, the teacher had said in the afternoon. However, for the evening performance all he could remember was the first word "It's". We called him "It's" for a long time afterwards. That same night after the festivities, I was saying good bye to the teacher and when I got to the door I was told my folks had gone home (not knowing they had forgotten me). Jack Phillips gave me a ride on saddle horse home.

Dad decided we needed more land and he bought five quarters ten miles further west in the Gordon district. We sold our place to Don Manuel. We moved in March 1919 and the cold and snow storms began again and we had no ready feed for the cattle. Dad long remembered paying fifteen cents a bundle for greenfeed to Noble Robinson until the fields bared off. The house we had now was a large one. Sandborns had built it. Everyone became involved in the work of burning, clearing, walking in furrows to kick sods over, and picking roots.

The children all worked with chores etc. The boys had their own horse outfit and followed from field to field in routine until the seeding was done. We had lots of chores as there were pigs, dairy cows and Hereford range cattle to be looked after. Father bought the first threshing machine around the area and did a lot of work for neighbors as well as our own. We children would miss school during threshing time in order to help. The girls would stay home on wash day to help and sort and fold clothes. We would pick gallons of wild fruit and it would be put down for pies. Usually the fruit and garden stuffs would be gone by Christmas.

Living by the Little Red Deer river created some hazards and one was when the river was high and Geoff Dunk had to ford it to get to school. He had the grade VIII exam papers. The horse swung with the current and away went the papers and Geoff almost went too. Another school casualty was in the

Spring when the boys touched a match to some fluff and fire spread like mad. Boys rode for help, girls cried and the rabbits ran into the school yard. I remember too one time Archie was let down the ice well where we kept cream and meat. The ice had melted underneath and gave way. He grabbed an old ladder, and we eventually got him out. That ended the meat storage for that year and Mother told us not to talk about it!

John Thurston, the Rawleigh man, always stopped for dinner on his round and would leave Mother a large can of spice. Doc Pruitt was the Vet and we children didn't like him as he was always trying to buy one of us, and we took him seriously. Frank Anderson would stop by when horse-dealing and Izzie Kline was usually along too.

We swam at Millers' Bridge, played ball, attended concerts and programs at the Gordon School. Dad was floor manager for all the dances held at the Gordon, Cottonwood and Oklahoma schools and in the Wetherspoon Hall. We did a lot of square dancing at home after we got an organ and a violin which Bert learned to play.

Our wood supply was cut from the school section, which Dad rented for pasture. When this was sawed and split the grain cleaning came next and this would go on for weeks — first with a hand mill, then a pump engine running it.

My mother had pneumonia and was hospitalized for many weeks, but returned home by Rev. Orton and Miss Kearney. She later found out her friend Mrs. Mark Hocken, who had the same, had a relapse and died. I hung by a thread with ruptured appendix at fourteen years of age and thanks to Dr. Wagner, I recovered.

Dad sold pigs, Mother sold eggs and we bought cows from \$15. to \$38. mostly from Brandts in Big Bend. Mr. Bond, the butcher, from Innisfail used to come out on Mondays to dress out a veal calf. We would dress chickens and turkeys. Mother had a



Ruby, Ethel, Bert, Merlin, Wesley Lockhart.

Turkey Tom chosen to be shipped to Jamaica to start a flock there by the Alberta Poultry Board.

Three of the girls went through for teachers by working for our board and batching in Innisfail through high school. I recall the time of trying to get up enough nerve to ask Dad for \$5.00 for something we needed for "Normal". I did ask, but I didn't get it and we went pretty hungry for our grub ran out at the week end. Miss Sophie Thomson of Innisfail was a teacher I remember so well.



Mrs. Lockhart with her prize turkey that went to Jamaica to start a flock.

I remember too: George Miller who gave all the orders for his family from a chair by the window. He wore that chair right down to the rungs by sliding it from the window to his place near by at the head of the table: Mrs. Riste played the piano for Christmas concerts, community concerts: Harry Umpleby worked at Curtices and had a good voice and sang often: John Curtice remarried and his new wife made matching pinnies for the three girls to wear over a heavier dress to school. Mr. Curtice would plow the snow away from the school door, the woodshed and the outhouses after delivering the children to school on winter days: Lou Beckendorf worked with Dad at harvest time. He always seemed to watch our organization work and he was a quiet man. He stayed on his quarter until his passing in 1955. He was a bachelor. I remember too, Bob Smith the tinsmith in Innisfail. He made a new vent for our kitchen stove pipe to stop it from smoking: George Walker, the harness-maker, who patched and fixed harness for Dad: Crabapple Joe in the cafe. Bert went there to get ten cents of "Belly Jeans" as he called them: Miss Jury, where we girls batched. She was making mats, from rags and always supplied flowers, wild if necessary for the United Church.

The Lockharts retired to Innisfail where Robert was caretaker of the Cemetery. They moved to Haney, B.C. in 1944. Dad died at seventy-two years on February 7, 1950 and is buried at Coquitlam. Gertrude Lockhart died at eighty-three years on Nov. 22, 1966 and is buried beside her husband. Robert

Merlin Lockhart died at 56 years on February 8, 1961 and is buried at Haney B.C.

What impressed me most, even today, was my father's way of managing everything without ever mentioning anything about bills, money or the shortage of it. He never complained or bragged about anything. His favorite saying was, when it was pouring rain "It's a great Country to live in, even if you can't make a cent".

I, Ethel have enjoyed the many associations I have had the privilege of taking part in, in Innisfail and District — some of those being: the first president of the Gordon W.I., Horse Shoe Lake, Wartime Quilting Club, Knee Hill W.I., Innisfail & District Historical Society, Fish and Game, Hospital Auxillary, Arts & Crafts and Curling and Bowling.

The family of Robert and Gertrude Lockhart are: Robert Merlin (dec) married Elsie Baker. They had 4 children: Richard, Aida, Eveleen and Florence: William Albert (Bert) married Hazel Hetherington and resides in Bowden. They have 5 children: Gertie, Robert, Verna, Harold and Donna. Bert has been an Auctioneer for many years.: Ruby Evelyn married John Davidson and later, Geo Hart. They reside in San Diego, Calif. They have 3 children: Mildred, Darlene and Robert: James Wesley married Alice Spencely and reside in Innisfail. They have 8 children: Richard, Kenneth, Trudy, Gail, Blair, Lorraine, Lynne and Roddy: Ethel May married Allan Smith and resides in Innisfail. They have two sons: Douglas (of K.H.V.) and Glenn of Lacombe. Dora Irene married Elmer Lillico and reside in Spirit River, Alta. They have 5 children Robert, Wesley, Twins Glen and Richard and Fanny.: Archie Elmer and his wife Helen reside in Surrey. They have two children Sherrye and Kim: Myrtle Ruth married James Bird, later married Len New and resides in Vancouver.

THE LUNDY STORY by Mrs. George Findlay

The George Lundy family came to Innisfail in 1895. Mr. Lundy was born in the United States having come to Canada with the United Empire Loyalists. He was related to the Lundys' involved in the battle of "Lundy's Lane in the Niagara Peninsula. Mrs. Lundy was the former Isobel McAdams of Scotland. They arrived in Innisfail with a family of seven: Bill, Jenny, Jack, George, Annabelle, Lillian, Art. Eva and Ella were born in Innisfail.

Mr. George Lundy built and was proprietor of the Alberta Hotel. This was located on railway street behind where Tedeschini Store is now located. Many banquets and dances were held in the early days in the dining room of the Alberta Hotel. Ed and Bill Dodd played the violin and Margaret and Jenny Dodd played the piano for dancing and sing songs.

Mr. Lundy added a third floor to the hotel. The girls came home from school at noon and waited table. We learned to cook from the cooks at the hotel. I (Lillian) became the pastry cook.

Bed bugs were always a problem. A continued watch had to be kept that they weren't carried in. The bed springs were brushed, we would go around the



The Staff of the Alberta Hotel. Mrs. G. T. Lundy is sitting in center holding the young boy, Lynford Kemp.



Alberta Hotel Fire 1925.



Alberta Hotel Fire 1925;
getting water to assist in fire-fighting.

edge of mattresses with coal oil. Cracks in the wall paper had to be checked and brushed with coal oil.

Papa Lundy had the first car in Innisfail (1909). It was a high wheel buggy type controlled by a bar.

We used to skate as children on Dodds' Lake. We used to swim at Mud Lake or Hazelwood Lake. Annabelle and I used to have fun fooling the boys as we looked much alike and the boys couldn't tell us apart.

I remember the police often used to bring in homesteaders who had gone crazy from living alone. I had Mrs. Boucher as a music teacher.

The family of Mr. and Mrs. George Lundy were:

Bill — he and Jack had a butcher shop in Innisfail for a while.

Jenny — married W.H. Kemp. She had sons Elmer, Lynnford, Hazelwood, Jack and Albert and one daughter who died in infancy.

Jack — married Jessie Bejarvis. They had 3 children: Lawrence and Katherine and George.

George died in the Boer War in South Africa.

Lillian married Jack Findlay and had 7 children: George, Ralph, Lundy, Larry, Ted, Jean and Lillian.

Annabell married W. Wells and they have 4 children: Bertram, Lillian, George and Kathleen.

Art — married Irene Cloakey and they have one son Bill who is residing in Innisfail.

Eva — married Jack Armstrong and have 4 children: Ted, Ken, Violet and Isabel.

Ella married Russell Carter and resides in Edmonton.

I, Lillian attended school in Innisfail, Calgary and Edmonton. I attended Normal in Regina in 1905. I taught school at Grand Center (out of Didsbury). I was married in 1907 and resided in Didsbury for ten years before coming to Trochu where I still live.

LUNDGREN STORY by Oscar Lundgren

My parents, Mr. and Mrs. Axel Lundgren were both born in Denmark. Dad had worked in a munitions factory in Denmark until moving to Nebraska U.S.A. where he had a twin brother residing. My parents were married in 1891 in Denmark. Mother was the former Petrina Neilsen. They were both 25 years of age when they were married.

From Nebraska, Dad later homesteaded in Bowbell, N.D. and farmed here for several years. It was here that his family was born. He had the misfortune of losing an eye and found that the seemingly constant winds bothered him so he and his family moved to Alabama where he worked in the lumber trade. This venture did not prove very satisfactory so he moved back to North Dakota. He read of the "Danish Settlement" at Dickson, Alberta and decided to come up here and look over the possibility of homesteading in 1906. He was unable to get land in the Dickson area, but did file on a quarter section in the Kevisville area.

It was in 1907 that the Lundgren family came to the Innisfail district. The Children were: Gerda (15 years), Rudolf (12 years), Oscar (6 years) and Ernest (4 years). The family arrived in Innisfail via C.P.R. from Bowbells, N.D. and I well remember the ride out to Dickson in a "lumber wagon". I don't recall just how long it took, but considering the conditions of the "trails" in those days it must have at least taken a day.

We were blessed with many good neighbors — all good people. We had to rely on our neighbors to keep our spirits up.

My father was a great community-minded man and a born leader. He was the leading force in our early Church and Sunday School activities. He knew his Bible and could sing any hymn. Dad would read the lesson and lead the singing. Later everyone would have a visit and lunch and then look forward to the next Sunday. These get-togethers would rotate from

one home to another. Sometimes it would be pretty crowded, but who cared — we all had a good time.

I remember one time going to Church at the neighbors in a wagon. We had some muskeg to cross and one of the horses fell into a “deeper than usual” hole and couldn’t get out by himself. We had to unhitch, put a heavy rope around the neck of the downed horse and pull him out with the other horse. We then hitched them up again and went on to Church.

I don’t think we had much different weather conditions then, but we had less efficient heating systems. The old Pot Bellied wood stove had to be fed two or three times each night in below zero weather. There wasn’t a thermostat then either.

I recall being completely haled out and wondering where our winter feed for the few head of cattle we had, would come from. Dad was a real optimist and would remark “Maybe next year things will be better”. Somehow we managed to survive. We always had enough to eat and Mother was an expert at making our clothing.

When we first moved into the Dickson area, Dad worked in a sawmill west of Kevisville and took most of this wages in lumber. He was a very good carpenter and built a very substantial house on the homestead that we moved into in 1909.

Horseshoes was perhaps the most popular pastime outdoors as there wasn’t a spare field large enough for such as baseball. Dad was a great Chess and Checker player and passed many an evening with neighbors, by the light of the Kerosene Lamp.

I remember being at a public picnic in 1914 and I wanted to buy some ice cream. They wouldn’t sell me a five cent dish, so I put my nickle with Ray McKain’s nickle and we bought a ten cent dish and shared eating it.

I remember too my first trip to Innisfail (I was a teenager) and I was amazed and frightened by the plumbing system they had in town.

In later years we all had saddle ponies, but during my school years I had to walk the 2-3/4 miles to school. I started in Dickson and in 1909 we moved to Kevisville so attended school there. Miss Elsa Gunderson was at one time our teacher and she was boarding at our home. She walked the 2-3/4 miles to school but had to be there early enough to start the

fire and warm the building before school started. I also attended the Olds Agricultural School and have used the training I received there throughout my life.

My sister Gerda, married T.A. “Ted” Jensen. Rudolf married Marian Matson. I married Edythe Chute. My youngest brother, Ernest died in 1923.

My father passed away at the age of 92 years. Mother passed away at the age of 87 years.

It was in 1925 that I came into Innisfail and opened a business with T.A. Jensen (February 2). We were the Chevrolet and Oldsmobile dealers having the franchise until 1947. At this time the partnership was dissolved and in 1948 Lundgren & Hoffos were opened. We also engaged in the Farm Machinery business until 1956.

My wife Edythe and I have three sons: Gerald who married Gerrie Goodwin. Gerald is a pharmacist in Victoria and they have 4 children: Leigh, Kent, Jodi and Susan. Rodger is a Chartered Accountant and resides in Calgary with his wife, the former Norma Banister, and children Donald, Douglas Jeff and Jonathan. Our youngest son, Duane married Carol McPhee and they have 3 children: Bradley, Angela and Nadine. Duane is associated with Lundgren Motors.

I have been active in community affairs having served as a town councillor and Mayor of Innisfail from 1958-60. I served for 25 years on the School Board, have been on the United Church Board for several years and have supported baseball in administration along with Fleet Kirkham. I recall Fleet buying a new car in 1928 and putting 90,000 miles on it — using it mostly for sports participation. Fleet has also curled for 60 continuous years in Innisfail. Edythe was very musical and was in the Church Chior for many years and never missed a night in 13 years. She did much solo work and was active in the Musical Club. She passed away June 10, 1969.

THE STAMPEDE by Mrs. Reta Cole

For a story of the very early days in Innisfail I remember being told many; but I found lots of them to be the kind you laugh uproariously about because otherwise knowing the people, you might just cry.

This story happened when I was about 5 or 6 years old; but old enough to remember it well. This happened every Sunday, weather permitting. It was right on our street across the road from our pioneer shack. Mother was very strict about all the family behaving like civilized folk, and especially on Sunday.

Sunday about 10 or 11 o’clock young men and horses and some with wagon teams would appear across the street. The would-be cowboys and some real cowboys would ride around into the vacant lots behind the livery barn (where Lundgren Motors is today). The livery barn was built so close to the street one could step on the door step while walking on the side walk. At the back of the barn were four empty lots. P.L. Grasse’ home was the boundary on the west. It was a good spot for some fun. It was barbed-wire fenced, dry grass and treeless. Shunshine all day, perfect it was, behind the livery barn.



Mr. and Mrs. Axel Lundgren with children Gerda, Rudolf, Oscar, ?.

Frank Anderson ran the barn and some of the riders I well remember were Tom Lauder, Warnie Coffin, Jack Miller, Tom and John Varty. There were also some of the Dodds, and John Wilson the blacksmith.

By noon, things were pretty lively. There were bucking horses, training horses, swapping horses and just horse talk. A small Stampede and it was at our front door! They didn't call it a Stampede. It was just recreation. Horses in those days for many, was their recreation. I can't remember anyone ever paying anything to see it.

But, where the havoc of the sport was really brought into focus was in our house across the street. I remember my mother taking me in no uncertain manner off the chair I was standing on at the window to see the fun. She pulled down the front window shade and gave me one fine lecture on the rudeness and uncivilized manner of the people who inhabited the West. What is so humorous to me now is that several of her own family were across the street at the time I was told to sit in the kitchen until the job of breaking horses was over for the day.

Years later I was to wonder why the town needed a Stampede Grounds when there was a built-in one right in the center of the town!

With Mother, it was a case of the East and the West meeting with the West the winners.



Bert Lalor's horse; after a hard day's work.

THE MACDIARMID FAMILY by Leone Fead

John MacDiarmid, born Aug. 12, 1864 at Mount Pleasant, Ontario, came west for health reasons in 1905. He had his ticket through to Wetaskiwin, but stopped at Innisfail to visit an old Ontario neighbor and her husband, Bert Malcolm, who was with the Hail Insurance Board. He was so impressed with the Innisfail country he decided to stay and purchased 3/4 sections in the Grahamston district which had originally been homesteaded by a Mr. Calvert. Mr. Calvert had come in the 1890's and built a fair two-story house with fir lumber, hauled from Calgary by team.



J. MacDiarmid house, 1907. L. to R.: Mrs. J. MacDiarmid, Alec, Helen, Dorothy Gilray, Leone, Donna, Mrs. Gilray, John MacDiarmid.

John had arrived in Innisfail in May, and the family followed in August. He had married Annie R. Smithson at Cainsville, Ontario, in April 3, 1889. The house on the farm was quite adequate at first, but remodelled later. However, the walls and ceilings, which were finished with V-joint, were very black and discolored. Annie papered them all with old magazines and then calsomined them in pleasing light colors. It was very strenuous work, but was lovely and bright when finished. She made most of the family's clothes, and she was noted for her butter (won many prizes at the fairs) for which she had regular customers in town for a number of years. This was a lot of work, so later they sold their cream to the creamery. Money was scarce in the first years; to obtain some quick cash for groceries, John cut stove wood with a buck saw, hauling it into town for \$4.00 a load. They grew some grain, had milk cows and other cattle (which at that time sold around 3c per pound), a few pigs, chickens, turkeys, and geese; and they always had a big garden which provided plenty of vegetables. Wild berries were plentiful most years and helped to supplement the tame fruits, which, even at that time, could be bought in Innisfail. Wild game was also plentiful. John was a good provider; one day he brought home ten cases of lovely peaches, purchased for \$1.00 a case.

The first close neighbors to the east were John McCormack, Walter Vaness, Bill Robinson, Walter Hudson, and to the west Alec Buckham, John Buckham, S. Fead, McCaws, Wades, Mortons, and Mr. Mayo.

In the early years we had to provide our own amusement and fun. There were dances held in the school houses, which were also used for church on Sunday, and for concerts and Christmas entertainments, etc. In summer there were picnics with various contests, foot races, games, etc. There were horse racing, bucking horses, baseball, football and horse shoes. In winter there was skating and card playing was popular. There were many gatherings in the homes where a space would be cleared for dancing, which often lasted to the 'Wee Sma' hours. There were sing-songs, and it was surprising how much talent existed and how many musical in-

struments there were in the homes in those days before the advent of radio and TV.

At Grahamston we had a Burns Club, and each year appropriately celebrated the Bard's birthday with the bagpipes, Scottish dancing, recitations and songs and the traditional Haggis, made each year by Mrs. Simon Fead, served with the lunch which always followed the concert.

In the early days, three young Englishmen had lived on the quarter directly east. They had been cutting and piling logs with which to build a house. One cold evening, one of the boys was out at dusk, and was down on his knees, partially hidden by the pile, counting the logs. One of the other boys, catching a glimpse of him in the fur coat he was wearing, mistook him for a bear, rushed into the house for the rifle, and shot him.

I shall never forget the night the home of the Geo. Oakes family, four miles south of Innisfail, was destroyed with fire. This was a big frame house which had formerly been owned by the Bothamley family. There was a Chautaugua in town, and Mr. & Mrs. Oakes had taken the two older children in with them to see it, leaving their six younger children at home. The performance was followed by a dance, and some time after midnight, word was brought in of the fire. The distraught parents rushed home but were unable to save any of the children. This terrible tragedy put an end to the festivities and left us all with a feeling of horror. I can still remember the acrid smell of the smoke as we drove home that night well over fifty years ago.

Donna — married Jack Davidson Feb. 16, 1912. Died 1939. Three children: Murray, Hugh and Helen.

Leone — married Norman W. Fead July 21, 1915. Children: Lawrence & Bill.

Helen — married J.C. Davidson July 31, 1942. Died June 13, 1959.

Alec — married Janet Crawford Aug. 26, 1931; lives in Edmonton; Ch.: Patricia, John, Robert.

John MacDiarmid died Oct. 14, 1914 and his wife Annie on May 1, 1941.



New MacDiarmid house in 1924 with family group.

Donna, Leone, Helen and Alec attended school at Grahamston under Miss Stevens. The first High School class in Innisfail in 1907 was James Burns, Louise Tester, Donna and Leone MacDiarmid, with Fred L. Aylesworth Principal and Mrs. Aylesworth, a wonderful person, devoting much of her time to teaching, gratis, the school classes. We owed much of our success to her. Donna, Leone, and Helen all were school teachers. In those days a teacher's salary was \$50.00 per month.

ALEXANDER ROBERTSON MacDONALD by Helen Edgar

Alexander R. MacDonald was born in Inverness, Scotland on January 20, 1894. He spent his boyhood there and received his education there.

He came to Alberta for health reasons. When he arrived in Calgary he became employed by the Dominion Express Office. It was while he was there that he was offered a job to trail some horses up to the C.D. Tapperell Farm at Innisfail (now known as the Fogelvik Farm). Mr. Fred Stubbord accompanied him on this trip. It took them two days to trail these horses here. Alex worked for a short time with Mr. Tapperell doing farm work. When war broke out in 1914 Alex enlisted with the 49th Regiment from Edmonton. He spent five years in the army and upon his discharge returned to Innisfail where he purchased land in the Grahamston district where he still resides (1973).

He married Helen Wade at a ceremony at Red Deer, October 4, 1920. His wife Helen, passed away December 13, 1962.

The children born to them are:

Malcolm who is with the Smelter at Trail B.C. He married Levia Anderson and they have five daughters: Joanne, Sharon, Daphne, Lori-Anne and Harmony.

Catherine who makes her home at High River. She married Bruce Humfrey and they farm. They have five children: Darlene, Pat, Dorothy Ann, Beverley and Bruce.

Helen who with her husband, Raymond Edgar, farms in the Big Bend District. They have five children: Darrell, Louise, Max, Allister, Kathie-Ann.

Alex Jr. (deceased) married Nettie Olson and they made their home in Red Deer. They have seven children: Norman, Douglas, Jerry, Donnie, Wendy, Judy and Holly.

Alice (deceased) made her home with her father on the home place but was employed for several years with the Alberta Government Telephones.

Darlene married Roy Scarlett and they make their home in Innisfail. They have three daughters: Cheryl, Leanne and Meridell.

Our biggest achievement was being together as a family and being able to enjoy our neighbors and get-togethers. Our Christmas concerts at the school houses were something everyone looked forward to and the Country School Dances, card parties, and Sunday Church were activities at the Grahamston school we all participated in.

Our early trading was done at G.W. West Store and later known as G.W. West & Son, and the Coliseum operated by Billy and Hugh Hodge.

Our Mother always had a happy disposition even though adversities occurred. She was always there when we children came home from school and was busy sewing and cooking for her family. Her mother, Mrs. Wade, taught school in the area for many years and was a very early settler.

Brothers Alex and Malcolm served in W.W.II, both going overseas.

Alexander Robertson MacDonald is still active, in good health and carrying on his farming activities.

HUGH MACDOUGALL STORY by Miss Mary MacDougall

My father, Hugh MacDougall, was born in Hamilton, Ontario in 1855. He lived most of the time around Harriston. He was also two years in Wyoming on a Ranch. He was a framer in building barns. He came from Ontario to take up a homestead in the Little Red Deer District in 1893.

He came by train and it took six days. If I remember correctly the ticket was \$30.00. He built a house that was frame and had a shingled roof so that it would not leak. Testers lived near by so he boarded with them while he was building his house. Father helped build bridges for miles around and they did anything that would come along to get money for their food. His pay for long hours of work on bridges was 50c per day. This would be from sun up until sundown.

Father went back to Ontario and in 1895 he married Marion Kean. She lived on a farm near Harriston. They were married on the 13th of March and came to Innisfail on the first of April, to Sinclairs. Mrs. Sinclair was a first cousin to my mother. Then they came onto the homestead where father had built the house.

There were two infant sons who passed away. There were three girls: Janet who married Bristol Center. Mary (myself), Isabel who married Harry Meehan and had two children Joe & Marion. Isabel and Harry lived on the Hugh MacDougall farm and



Mr. and Mrs. Hugh MacDougall and their three daughters: Janet, Isabelle, and Mary.

now their son Joe has the farm. Marion is Mrs. Ed Lavalle & they live in Red Deer and have one son Vance.

Early friends and neighbors were the Johnson Campbell family, the Testers, Davidsons, Levicks, Dave Arnell, Sinclairs and Browns — all living on farms further away. John A. Simpson was one of the first men in Innisfail who was a great friend of Father's.

Donald MacDougall known as "Haywire MacDougall" came from Ontario and was my father's nephew. He lived with us for 21 years. He went to W.W.II. and now lives in Edmonton.

My sisters and I attended the Little Red Deer School. Schoolmates were: Mabel Campbell (Mrs. Wilfred Edgar), and Grace Brown (now in Vancouver).

My first teacher was Miss Snare and she boarded at Calder's. My last teacher was Mr. Brain. Early families I remember were the Simpsons, Calders, Campbells, Testers, Davidsons, Wildmans, Browns, Sinclairs and Camerons. They all farmed.

Mrs. Calder started an organization in 1912. Mrs. Calder was Geo. Calder's mother. They called it the Little Red Deer Dorcas Society. The ladies that started with her were: Mrs. Isabel Sinclair, Mrs. Margaret Stevenson, Mrs. Bertha Edgar, Mrs. Marion MacDougall (My Mother), Mrs. Alice Scott, Mrs. Annie Brown, Mrs. Clara Calder, Miss Elizabeth Duncan, Mrs. Estella Scarlett and Mrs. N. Wright. They did great things for the poor. The girls had a club they called the P.H.L. (Pretty Homely Lot) and we all enjoyed this. Both clubs did much in the war and I remember one year were able to raise \$1000.00. My Mother passed away in November 1923, My father in June, 1940, Janet in Jan. 1959 and Isabel in April 1972. All are buried in the Innisfail Cemetery.

ANGUS MacKAY by Minnie MacKay

Angus MacKay 1858 - 1941 m. Mary Bell 1864 - 1953 Children: Christina; Helen Jane (McKerlich), d. 1964; Elizabeth Mary (Blair); Johan (McClughan), dec.; Williamina; Donald MacFarland, d. 1965; Agnes Wilson (Dixon); Margaret Ann (Stegeman); Robertina (Lind); Jamesina Bell (Scarlett); Angus; Georgie Elsie Betsy, d. 1940.

Mr. & Mrs. Angus MacKay arrived in Innisfail from Scotland on June 10, 1912, with their family of twelve, settling on their farm four miles north-west of town. Mr. MacKay had been in Ontario many years before and had returned to Scotland to be married and intending to come back to Canada. The welcome friendliness of the settlement did much to help and encourage us those first hard years. One story from Hugh Ross we children listened to with awe told of the time while he was living with the Indians. He wrapped himself in a buffalo skin on a cold winter night and in the morning he had to chew himself out of the frozen skin.

Home parties were our entertainment. A new barn was always something to celebrate. I remember one frosty night this barn was all ready for a celebration.

Hay was all around for seats, colored streamers, chinese and coal oil lanterns overhead and at either end a pot-bellied stove. All went well until the loft got warmed up, then came the drip from the ceiling — forcing the ladies to make knotted handkerchief caps for head protection. A “box social” added to an evenings’ entertainment — boys’ disappointments were taken in good form when a rival won his girl friend’s box, or maybe he had to eat supper with her mother or grandmother. We enjoyed hayrides, sleighrides, curling and lawn tennis and tobogganing. The ladies had the Dorcas Society; younger women the P.H.L. (Pretty Homely Lot) — all helping the needy in their own way.

In the early days, there were only a few with ‘electric’ light (from Delco power). Christmas trees were carefully lighted with small candles; popcorn ropes and colored apple rings were among the home-made decorations. Glen Scarlett learning a ‘piece’ for both the school and Sunday School Christmas concerts got a bit mixed up and treated the audience on the Sunday School night to a comic piece — hardly in keeping. It was taken in good grace with general amusement.



The McKay Family. Taken just before leaving Scotland for Canada in 1912. Back row: Joanne, Nellie, Tina, Madge, Bessie, Minnie; front row: Ina, Aggie, Mrs. McKay, Georgie on her knee, Angus, Mr. McKay, Donald and Bertha.

Roads were passable for most of the year — they were maintained by the farmers working their taxes out this way.

Meat was usually home-cured. Killing the pig was a big day. After killing, the carcass was dipped in a barrel of boiling water to soften the bristles, which were then scraped off. Neighbors always helped one another. Imagine the consternation of Mrs. Milligan when he, who was always so proud of his much tended waxed mustache, came home clean-shaven. Was it her husband or the pig they had dipped in the barrel?

In the spring, the Red Deer River was swift and deep and loggers came down riding the log booms. Their scow sailing along was of great interest to the children. They were usually given a short ride and lunch aboard. The cook refilled his supplies from the farms as they went downstream.

Even in those early days, oil drilling was planned. One site chosen was by the old bridge crossing to Big

Bend — but there wasn’t enough money to carry on. The big luxury in 1912 was the rural phone — sometimes for good news, sometimes for trouble. The best news of all came through from Calgary in the early morning of Nov. 11, 1918. The news of the Armistice came to us from a friend who lived on ‘Scotsmans’ Hill’ in Calgary and the joy-excitement-bells ringing in the army camp below could easily be heard. It had been an anxious time for all during that first World War. Like many others, the MacKays’ had two of their family serving with the armed forces overseas. Their eldest daughter Christina, R.N. was in the medical division; their older son, Donald, in the army.

Mother and Dad’s happiest day was in 1937 when they celebrated their Golden Wedding with all their family home together with many old-time and newer neighbors. Their youngest son, Angus, now lives on the home farm.

THE MACKENZIE BROTHERS by Mrs. Walter McKenzie

James MacKenzie arrived in the Innisfail area from Greenock, Scotland in about 1909 or 10, to try farming. He had already tried it in Australia and was not too satisfied with that.

He married M.I. (Belle) McArthur from east of Innisfail. He bought his land from John Wilson Sr. as no homesteads were available at the time. He raised purebred Herefords and Clydesdales along with the farming. His land was located in the Hogadone school district. James (Jim) was secretary treasurer of the Hogadone school for many years.

For several years a much enjoyed recreation area, located west of Hogadone was the “Crystal Pool”. It was here that yearly picnics, swimming and boating parties were held. In the winter skating parties were enjoyed. Jim was Sec/Treas for the duration of the pool. All of a sudden one year, it just dried up. It was a sad loss to the community as people had come from miles around to enjoy it. Jim was also councillor for the M.D. of Arthur for some time. He passed away Sept. 11, 1935 and is interred in the Innisfail Cemetery.

Walter McKenzie: a younger brother of James, still in high school in Scotland, was enjoying information derived from his brother’s letters home, decided to join him in Canada. While at home, Walter was a champion swimmer with many medals, cups and trophies awarded him. In April of 1912, Walter sailed from Greenock, Scotland on the ocean liner “Parisian” (which was the first vessel to reach the scene and assist in the rescue work of the “Titanic”).

On his arrival in Innisfail he was met by his brother James and joined him in his farming operations until the W.W.I broke out. War was declared on August 4, 1914. The next morning Walter arose, saddled his horse and rode to Red Deer to enlist. He joined the First Canadian Division, Western Cavalry Light Horse. He had three brothers in the services as well in Scotland and only once did he meet up with one of them. When he got overseas, he was transferred to an Infantry Regiment and later promoted in rank. Some



Walter MacKenzie

of the battles he took part in were: Festubert, Givinchy, Moguet farm, Regina Trench, Ypres, Hill 60, Sanctuary Wood, Somme, Courcellette, Vimy Ridge, Passchendaele, and Arras. He was in the first gas attack at Ypres (22nd April, 1917) — mustard gas, and there were yet no gas masks. Their only help was to wet their handkerchiefs and tie over their mouths and noses.

After Armistice, he was with the army of occupation in Germany and didn't arrive back in Innisfail until June of 1919 — just in time to see some of the great loss of cattle and other evidence of the "Great Blizzard" of May 1919. He continued to farm with his brother James until 1923 when he bought land in the Knee Hill Valley district. A few years later he married E. Grace Blenkhorn. His family: Duncan Blenkhorn MacKenzie m. Doreen E. Krause; Alma Craig MacKenzie passed away in Scotland while we were living there; Thomas Walter Craig McKenzie lives in Red Deer.

While Walter was farming in Knee Hill Valley he was affiliated with Mr. S.A. Fox and Mr. W.H. Jackson in the selling of war bonds for W.W.II. He was councillor for the M.D. of Arthur starting in 1939 and was Deputy Reeve starting in 1943. He was a member of the board and worked diligently to obtain a greatly needed Rest Room in the Town of Innisfail. He was Vice President of the board of Directors of the Innisfail District Medical Services Assn. He was instrumental in getting the Innisfail Swimming Pool for the town and district swimmers.

He retired from farming in 1960, his son Duncan taking this operation over. Duncan and family moved to Penticton in 1973. Craig had purchased one of the quarters of land — so some of the home farm is still in the family name. Craig has been with the Red Deer Television Station for some years as Accounts Executive and enjoys the affiliation very much.

L.M. MACLEAN & FAMILY by Bertha MacLean Wilson

My father, Lauchlin M. MacLean, was born in South Finch, Ontario on April 30, 1871. He married Catherine MacEwen, born July 1, 1871, at her father's home at Maxville, Ontario on May 23, 1894. He left the family at home and came out west in 1907. He stopped and filed on a homestead where the

town of Rosetown now is situated but decided farming was not for him and came on to Innisfail where he was offered work as butter maker in the creamery then situated across the tracks. Back East he had worked as a butter and cheese maker; while in Innisfail he was a butter maker, and an Insurance and Real Estate General Agent. He stayed at the Alberta Hotel until Mother and the family arrived in August, 1907.

I can remember hearing the problems encountered in renting a house that was not already occupied with non-paying guests in the walls. Dad's only question when buying the house I was raised in from the time I was two was, "Does it have any bugs?" Mr. Kremer assured him it was pure and the deal was made.

Dad was involved with civic affairs and served as mayor. He also served on the school board for many years. He was a Mason and Eastern Star; Mother, Irene and myself were Eastern Stars, worked in the Presbyterian Church and I also took part in the Home and School when it was active. Dan was a Mason and both boys belonged to associations connected with their work.



Mr. and Mrs. L. M. MacLean.

We attended Innisfail Public and High Schools; some of the teachers whose names I remember are Miss Graves, McKenzie, Brown, Roberts, Sheppard, Perry, Lawrence, Mrs. Hodge, Mr. Thompson, Davis, Reeves, O'Meara, and McCallum.

Schoolmates were members of many town and country families. Some have remained in the district, some have moved to many places, and some have passed on. Names that come to mind are Baycroft, Sinclair, Gilray, Gray, Beattie, Rogers, McMillan, Bryan, Moore, Percy, Dallas, Wade, Fox, Simpson, Law, Shenfield, Delong, Manuel, Aspinall and many others.

Children: Dan went to Normal in Calgary after High School and taught out at Red Lodge. He and three other boys went to Peace River and filed on homesteads but Dan did not stay the required time to 'prove up'. He went overseas in the first World War and was an instructor in the R.F.C. After the war he spent some time at home, then decided to go back to his first love and went into civil aviation where he had many experiences. He flew the first mail to Saint John; he helped photograph the north for air fields; he was Comptroller of Civil Aviation during W.W. II



MacLean children: Daniel, Irene, Keith, and Bertha.

and it was under his department that all the training fields for the air forces were found and set up. He received the McKee trophy which is awarded annually to the person felt to have done the most for aviation during the past year. The last number of years before he retired, he was a member of the air transport board.

Keith went through for medicine. He joined the armed forces early in the second W.W. and his time was spent in the Medical Corps in England and Italy. He was returned to Canada late in 1944 with wounded to Vancouver. He also received many honors from his peers both during his lifetime and after as he loved and was very dedicated to his work.

Irene and myself were teachers and have excelled mostly in dishwashing.

Alexander Daniel MacLean married Marjorie Cook of Markerville in 1927. They resided mostly in Ottawa, Ont. One son Douglas living in Toronto who has 4 children; and one daughter Kathryn in Ottawa who has 2 children. Dan died May 16, 1969; buried in Ottawa. Irene Florence MacLean married Adna Reeves of Lacombe in 1932; lived in Wetaskiwin and Vancouver; 1 child deceased. Irene died September 17, 1958; buried at Innisfail. Thomas Keith married Kathleen Burgess of Camrose in 1933. They lived in Coleman and Vancouver; 1 son James who has 2 children. Keith died Dec. 6, 1964; buried at Innisfail. Bertha Catherine married John Wilson of Innisfail in 1930. (see Wilson story)

Lauchlin M. MacLean died Nov. 11, 1943 and his wife Catherine on Feb. 2, 1944; both buried at Innisfail.

NORMAN E. MACLEOD by Isabelle Chrestenson & Ed MacLeod

Norman E. MacLeod, our father came to Innisfail in March, 1910 coming from Calumet, Michigan. He was one of a family of 10 born to Mr. & Mrs. Edward MacLeod who came from Scotland.

He came to Alberta because he was a pioneer at heart and there were many advertisements at that time urging people to "Come to Sunny Alberta" and take up homesteads. He came to Innisfail because his brother-in-law, William Norman was already here and was principal of the Innisfail school at the time.

He came by C.P.R. Dad and another man who was going to Killam shared a railway car. Besides our furniture Dad brought a wagon, walking plow, Blacksmith tools (including a forge and anvil), harnesses, and "fly nets" (black and yellow with tassels which were used with the driving harness. There was also a shot gun, a shoemakers' last, a compass and talking machine with 60 records as well as Mother's organ. He had \$1000 with which he bought horses, cows and a few necessary pieces of machinery. This trip took them 5 weeks.

Mother, my brother Edward and I came by passenger train two weeks later. Food for the trip was carried with us. The trip west for us took about a week.

Dad had farmed in Ontario, then sold his farm and with three brothers went to Calumet Mich to work for a copper mining company. When he came to Innisfail he rented a farm from Mr. Jellis that was 1-1/2 mi. north and east of town.

A few months later another brother-in-law, Joseph Norman and his family came west and rented the farm next to us. The farm later was owned by Archie McKechnie. Dad bought a 1/4 section a mile east of where we were living. He later sold the 1/4 to Jim Rogers and bought the farm we were living on. For a while he also rented 20 acres along the old Edmonton Rail. This belonged to the Vartys. They also had pig pens there.

The MacLeod family lived on the farm until 1941 when the boys enlisted and our parents rented it and bought a house in Innisfail. It was after W.W. II Edward took over the farm.

We always had a large vegetable garden and we had our own meat. This was butchered on the farm.



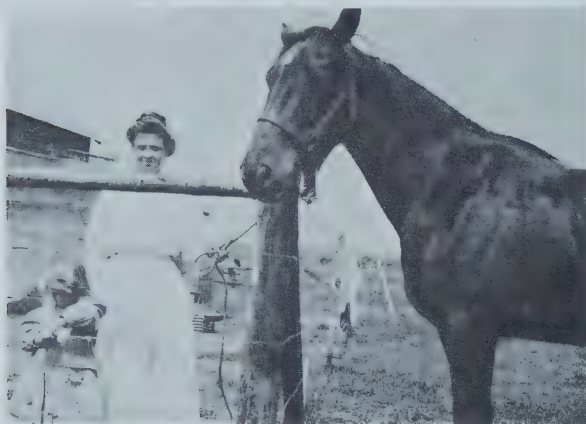
Norman MacLeod and Edward taken in 1910.

There was wild fruit too. In the fall there were prairie chicken, partridge and wild ducks. Lard was rendered from the pork. Cows were milked to provide milk, cream and butter. Sometimes Mother made butter to sell.

In the early days Dad hauled lumber from the Raven to Trochu for G.W. West. He also put up ice from Dodd's Lake. A lot of our clothing was made at home. Our house was built of logs and sided with lumber. It was heated by a cook stove and 2 heaters. Fuel was mostly wood, which was cut and hauled in winter. Piling the wood and keeping the kitchen wood box filled was the responsibility of the children. Water from the well was pumped by hand. It was quite hard and so the soft water for washing was carried up a steep hill from the creek that ran thru' our yard.

Dad married Jane Elizabeth Norman. She was born near Kincardine, Ontario in August, 1875. They met in Calumet and were married there May 28, 1902. There were three children: Isabelle Marie MacLeod (Mrs. Louis F. Chrestenson), Edward George who married Louise MacLeod in April 1950) They have four children: Thomas Norman, Marianne Heather, Norman Edward and David George. Thomas Norman married Louise Belliveau of Oyen in 1939. They had two children: Jane Elise, and Marguerite Isabelle.

Edward and I were born in Calumet, Mich. Thomas was born in Innisfail in 1916 in the old hospital (across from the creamery).



Mrs. Norman MacLeod with Isabelle and "Old Pat", taken in 1910.

I taught school for a few years before marrying Louis F. Chrestenson. We lived at Wetaskiwin, Medicine Hat and Innisfail where Lou managed yards for the Revelstoke Lumber Co. When we came to Innisfail in 1946 we bought the Shady Brook Farm. This was originally the George Geary farm. We had two children: Faye Marie and Norman John.

Thomas worked in the Innisfail Hardware before the war. He joined the R.C.A.F. in 1941. He had completed a tour of 32 flights over enemy targets, but because they were desperate for experienced crews he continued on a few more trips. On their way home from Turin, Italy (for the fifth consecutive night) they

were badly shot up by German fighters. They had a crash landing. Tom died in hospital in Lincolnshire 36 hrs. later. His brother Ed was with him the last few hours. He lies buried in Scampton village cemetery.

Edward MacLeod joined the R.C.A.F. in 1941, but transferred to the Canadian Army Armored Corps Tanks. He went overseas and was in France on D. Day.

Our first neighbors were: Dodds, McGormans, Spurgeons, Geo. Davidsons, Barkmeyers, Morris', Gray McLure, Wm Champs, Cousins, Bowes, Twissels, Ed Howard, Bert Crack, J.R. Moores, and George Bryan.

For several years we had to go across Dodd's field to the Edmonton Trail to get to town. Dodds had one of the first threshing outfits and did our threshing for years. Mr. & Mrs. Percy Hill worked for Spurgeons and would walk out from town every morning and back every night. The delivery wagon from Hodges store went out every day. The Waldo Johnsons had a lot of dogs, Ed says 26.

Dad was on the Innisfail School Board for several years and was instrumental in getting the first grade 12 here in Sept. 1922. He was on the M.D. of Arthur Council and reeve for 20 years.

For recreation there were skating parties on Moore's slough and Dodds' lake; sleighriding on the school hill; tobogganing on Sage' Hill and swimming in Mud Lake. There was a pier, diving board and 2 or 3 summer cottages (Aspinals, Nowers) and several tents there plus a dance pavilion. Mr. Aspinall taught many of us how to swim. There were baseball tournaments on May 24th. The Fair was on July 1. There were Sunday school picnics, chicken suppers after the harvest. Ed, Tom and I all received our schooling in the old brick school. There were 8 classrooms (4 up and 4 down) and a teachers' room over the front entrance. The upper NE room was once used as a gymnasium. The lower N.W. room was a music room. In each cloakroom was a small table with a wash basin, soap and towel. Toilets were outdoors. The 2 large basement playrooms, one for girls and one for boys were always busy spots.

Dad's 3 sisters, Margaret, Anna and Tena MacLeod came to Innisfail about 1912. Margaret had a dressmaking shop above Fumerton's store for 2 yrs., and then went back to Ontario. Anna kept books for Wm Hodge & Sons and later married George Calder of the Little Red Deer District. Tena taught in the Innisfail Public School and then married Rev. J.S. Shortt, the Presbyterian minister here. Rev. J.S. Shortt was Moderator of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in 1933-1934.

Tragedies that struck were the fires at the Oaks and Rutledge farm homes. In each case several children died. I recall at the time of the Coronation of King Geo. V we all received medals at school. When the "flu" epidemic was on in 1918 the schools were closed and our school was used as a hospital. We wore cheesecloth masks and there were several deaths.

Ed remembers when someone drove a large herd of cattle from out east. At noon they enlisted the help of some of the school boys to assist in driving them thru' town. The boys were paid 25c each and they bought candy with the money. That bought a lot of candy in those days and they all got sick.

The MacLeod family belongs to St. Andrew's Presbyterian church. Dad was on the Board of Managers. Ed belonged to Trail Rangers, and I to the C.G.I.T. Dad belonged to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

Norman E. MacLeod died at Innisfail Nov. 9, 1945. Jane Elizabeth MacLeod died at Innisfail Sept. 11, 1949. Both are buried in Innisfail Cemetery. My husband Louis F. Chrestenson died at Innisfail on July 10, 1962 & is buried in Calgary.

JAMES BLAIR MacMILLAN by Mrs. Frances E. Harkness

J.B. MacMillan came to Innisfail in 1906 from Cove Head, Prince Edward Island. He was of Scottish Presbyterian stock, who came to P.E.I. as Selkirk Settlers in 1803 and of maternal from Woburn, Mass. after the war of Independence.

He left P.E.I. to better himself and also said "to get away from the snow". His father had been a P.E.I. member of the legislature for twenty-five years and died at fifty-four years leaving debts from signing notes for people, as was the custom then. My father stayed on the family farm long enough to pay off the debts, sold the farm, divided the proceeds in the family and then came west to see what he could do. He looked around and thought that the Innisfail area offered possibilities bought a little house next to a chinese laundry and sent for his wife and two children, furniture and effects. They arrived in 1906: Aubrey aged 7, Frances a few months old.

He first bought Wm. Kemps livery stable, then branched out into the cattle business with Jack Harbison, under the name of MacMillan and Harbison (brand bar 17). He moved in the meantime to the north side of town, next to Jack Smiths'.

Mr. MacMillan and Mr. Macoun (Frosty) — (the Manager of the Bank of Commerce) bought or built the Ford garage and agency and operated it through a manager for some time. He bought a section of the Gillingham horse ranch, from George Rosamond when the latter sold the farm. Mr. Rosamond had raised Percheron Horses and called it the Percheron Horse Ranch. This section, my Dad cleared of brush. It contained a small deep lake set in the woods and called "Dead Mans' Lake after an Indian who was said to have drowned in it.

About 1911, J.B. MacMillan bought a house at the corner of Central Ave. and Hammond Street and almost every spring when business was slow would execute some addition of alteration to this house, which his wife liked to call "The Gables" as it reminded her of L.M. Montgomery's house in P.E.I. — the author of Anne of Green Gables.

Our house was built by Mr. George Geary. His son, William Geary lived next to it across the alley and he owned Geary's Drug Store (now Ed. Jacksons').

There were two sons, Grant and Reg. The William Geary House was later bought by Dr. Hank Wagner, where he brought his bride. Mrs. Wagner was a very pretty, dainty blond girl and my mother was very fond of her. Grant Geary married Frances Stewart.

On the Central Ave side, the next house to ours was Willie Hodges — one of the sons of Hodges store — the other brothers were Hugh and Charlie.

Across the Street lived the Scott family with quite a large family. Mr. Scott was a provincial dairy officer.

The J.T. Rogers lived across from the Wagner house. Mr. Rogers owned the Innisfail Hardware (later Foxes). They had a big barn where they kept several cows and horses. Their son, Jack married Frances Sherwood and the daughters were Catherine and Mildred.

My mother, Mary Mackenzie MacMillan, also of Selkirk Settler ancestors from the Isle of Skye and Roshire, came from Flat River, P.E.I. and taught school near my fathers' home. She had gone to Prince of Wales College in Charlottetown. She died in Calgary on January 6, 1938. My father died in May 1950. He married a second time to Mrs. Granger who had lived in Innisfail for a while in the early days.

The MacMillan children: William Aubrey B.A.L.L.D., born 1899 — died 1967. Aubrey married Alice Kidd of Okotoks in 1932 and they have two sons: Blair and Peter, the latter taking law at present at the University of Toronto. Aubrey graduated from the U. of A. and made his career with General Motors Acceptance Co. After being retired one year he died. He enlisted in W.W.I in the R.F.C. and in W.W.II, as a legal officer with the R.C.A.F. Alice MacMillan (now Moore) married again and lives in Brampton Ontario. Blair, their adopted son lives in Halifax.

Frances E. MacMillan BSc in H. Ec, (U of A) born Sept. 1, 1905, grew up in Innisfail also. The family moved to Calgary in 1926. She married Douglas Scott Harkness P.C. G.M. ED in 1932. He has had several careers as a teacher, a farmer, a gunner officer in W.W.II, Conservative M.P. for Calgary East, Calgary North and Calgary Center for 28 years. He was Minister of Northern Affairs, of Natural Resources, as Minister of Agriculture and Minister of National Defence in the Diefenbaker Gov't. He retired in 1972 and is a director of several companies and has a small farm at De Winton, Alta. They have one son Kenneth Blair Harkness, BA LLB. K.B. Harkness has a son Douglas and daughter Janet Ann by his first wife Marion Hall and also a son William Scott by his second wife Sanny Krewenchuck.

We had a ladies hockey team in Innisfail who used to travel a bit to play with other teams. Our star was Katy Thomson and Catherine Rogers. Mrs. Daines used to run the rink house at times. We had some tennis and the Rogers' girls and myself rode quite a lot as our fathers both kept saddle horses. There was a pool room where the big boys went and we could go swimming at Mud Lake. We used to play a little basketball in the school basement but it was noisy

and dusty. Of course there was wonderful shooting in the fall and this was J.B. M's only recreation.

There was a man in town named Ludlum, but known as Kansas who I think ran a poker game at his little house. He was willing to pluck and clean ducks and birds and this was a blessing for my mother and the rest of us.

I recall Dr. Diver, who always gave a Cello solo at the Innisfail concerts. Rev and Mrs. Woods who founded the Woods Christian home lived at the far end of Central Avenue. He was an uncle of Kerry Woods who writes for Calgary Herald. Rev. and Mrs. Allan lived in the same house at a later period. The house was the "Fumerton Place".

My Mother was the regent of the Bertram Denison Chapter of the I.O.D.E. and President of the Womens' Missionary Society of St. Andrews Presbyterian Church in Innisfail. In addition she "put up" lots of visiting ministers and lecturers at our place.

One of the first things my father did to our house was to install a Delco light plant. On a few occasions an operation for emergency appendix was performed on our dining room table at night. The doctors' were afraid that the lights in the old hospital might give out on them. The patients would later be moved on to the hospital.

My brother and I went through the Innisfail school. Aubrey was in Red Deer taking grade XII and ran away to Calgary with Frank West and Reg Geary to enlist in the Royal Flying Corps.

Rev John Orton was such a wonderful man. He worked night and day during the flu epidemic. I think he was the most outstanding person I remember, he was natural and breezy, but a real man.

I liked being brought up in a small town. I think that it was an advantage. We all shared so much.

MAINWARING FAMILY by Kenneth Moffat

The Mainwaring family came to Innisfail on the same train as my parents, coming from somewhere near our folks in Ontario.

The family were: Fred and Mrs. Mainwaring, two sons, Ed and Lloyd. Lloyd was killed in action in World War I. Ed married Jessie Jones and then had one daughter Alma (Mrs. Archie Stutt) now of Vancouver, B.C.

There were two Mainwaring girls. One married a railroad man named Millett. He was killed and she later married Nel Hewitt. They had two girls (Isobell and Hazel) and a son (Bob). They lived in this district, Rowley, and later in the Peace River Country.

The other girl married Jim McLean. She lived here all her life and had three children — Alex, Fred and Mabel (Mrs. Walter Bailey).

Fred Mainwaring was killed by lightning while plowing with two horses on a walking plow.

Talk about working for nothing and boarding yourself — the Mainwarings sold us baby calves for 50c each telling us "They just wern't worth raising". I recently sold a calf — no bigger and no better — for \$140.

F.F. MALCOLM by Anne and Frank Malcolm

My father, Frank Fillmore Malcolm (1858-1949) was born in Scotland, Ontario. He received most of his education from his schoolmaster grandfather and attended the University of Michigan qualifying in Civil Engineering. His father, George, was also a carpenter and contractor and moved to Michigan. The two eldest, Frank F. and Harry A. migrated to what was an unsettled area and a life of pioneering and hard times.

In his early years, Dad became associated with J.J. Hill (of railroad building fame in the U.S.A.) and they built numerous railway stations and freight sheds. Dad took part in the Cherokee Strip Land rush, along with Fred Hall, riding a race horse to stake his claim. He built hotels and court houses in Washington. He then settled on a farm near Gazelle, California. After experiencing a 3 year drought he abandoned this farm and headed for Alberta where his brother Harry had already established himself. It took him three months to travel by covered wagon from California to Innisfail. He arrived in Innisfail in 1900. He started up carpenter-contracting again and built most of the first buildings on main street. Two best known were the Bank of Commerce Building and the Creamery west of the tracks.

In 1904-05 Dad and Uncle Harry ran the newspaper "The Free Lance". Later in 1905, Dad filed on a homestead on the Red Deer River and moved here when I was a baby. My mother was the former Mary Gray (1869-1954), born in Chatham Ontario and lived a short time in the U.S.A. before coming to Innisfail in 1903 with her 2 daughters, Ella and Margaret her parents Robert and Ann Gray, and her brother John Gray. For the first few years Mother worked as a cook in the Alberta Hotel. Within a few years the daughters married and moved away. Ella married Walter Miller and Margaret married F.G. Smith.

I was born, Frank Robert Malcolm in Innisfail on May 24, 1906. I used to travel to Innisfail to school by dog sled. My lead dog "Lassie" lived to be 14 years old. She was particularly good with sheep and cattle and could tree partidges. The coyote population increased over the years until in the thirties, when there were coyote hunts to thin them out and I took part in this.

On the homestead I raised a few sheep and some cattle. I cleared off the timber with a grub hoe. I did custom sheep-shearing, worked on threshing crews and did fur trapping in the winter with Coon Eagle, Louis St. Denis and Joe Thompson. I did some road work to work off taxes. I worked on the new bridge over the Red Deer River in 1924. I introduced the North Country Cheviot Sheep to this part of the country by importing ten purebred young ewes in lamb from Scotland in 1951. In 1955 the Federal Government (dept. of Agriculture) bought the entire flock. I found that a gravel pit, loading with a team of mules and operating a dragline was more profitable.

We, Frank and Anne, were married in 1935. It was a struggle to raise our three children: Judy (a phar-

macist, married Rolf Roschlaub of Germany and they farm Northeast of Grande Prairie: Leona, lives in Red Deer with her 3 children, Shelley, Cory and Treana Laterman.: Ronald Frank is associated with his father in a contracting and excavating business. He and his wife, Alice have 3 sons: Rodger, Randy and Ricky. They are the third and fourth generation to live on the old homestead. In carrying out certain contracts, Ron had to demolish some of the buildings his grandfather had constructed some sixty years earlier. At present Ron is in the heavy equipment hauling business.

We moved into town several years ago into semi-retirement.

I, Frank, remember how I enjoyed dog races in Innisfail in the early days, and I usually won! I rode Sages' famous Pilgrim horse. I would run an honest race, so would get a beating in the barn when I got back. The first horse I got, was one my Dad bought from Doc Lauder in 1903 for \$75. I recall the time Louis St. Denis and I took furs to Edmonton to sell and found the office closed when we arrived. We couldn't leave the furs in the car as we couldn't lock it, so ended up having a fur-lined hotel room. Louis, what ever money he made in fur selling he always brought back gifts with it for his sister Maggie and brother Oliver.

From the hilltops of our farm I had a panoramic view of the whole countryside and have seen the reversal of scenery and steps of progress. I saw the bush disappear to become huge grain fields with only a spattering of trees left. The unlit log shacks, dug wells, and horse conveyance and implements were replaced by modern homes and electrified sheds and barns, steel graneries, huge farm machinery to make each set of farm buildings take on the appearance of a miniature town. I could see modes of travel change from oxen on Indian trails to high powered vehicles on super highways. From my vantage point I could also see the ever expanding night lights of Innisfail. I am indeed fortunate to have so many friends, all ages, and so am never lonely.

H. A. MALCOLM FAMILY by Elsie Mattheie

Harry Abana Malcolm was born in Scotland, Ontario on March 31, 1860. He came west with his wife, Elsie Grace, and children Chester, Edna and Charles. The reason they came west was because of the McLeod family (who were long time friends) writing them after they had come out here and settled in Innisfail.

The Malcolms came to Innisfail from Calgary on the first through train from Calgary to Edmonton in late 1891. The first attempt they made on the train from Calgary, they only got as far as Airdrie where a heavy snow forced their return to Calgary. Then after a few days' stay in Calgary, they again boarded the train for Innisfail.

H.A. Malcolm went to high school in Brantford, Ontario and studied medicine for two years at Trinity College, Toronto, before he married. His wife was Elsie Grace Durham and they were married in October 1884 in Harrisburg, Ontario. They were

married at the Congregational Church there. She was a music teacher. After the marriage, he taught school for a time and then went into the general store business in Harrisburg. He homesteaded SW 1/4 of section 20 in the Aberdeen district in 1892. He also worked in the first government land office in Innisfail for twelve years. He was the editor of the Free Lance Newspaper along with his brother, Frank Malcolm. This paper in later years became the Innisfail Province. He was also the first teacher in the Aberdeen school and taught there for one year.



Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Malcolm, taken June 25, 1917.

Children of Harry Abana and Elsie Grace Malcolm were:

William Chester — born Aug. 21, 1885. Died July 5, 1956. Married in 1913 to Annie Julia Peterson of Huxley.

Edna Elgiva — born Mar. 3, 1887. Died Dec. 1945. Married Frank Ellis in 1917.

Charles Sowell Pedley — Born Nov. 1, 1889. Died Aug. 1960. Married Isabella Petrie.

Harry Durham — Born Mar. 1892 at Innisfail; died a month later.

Franklin — Born Mar. 31, 1893; Died at Battle of Paschendaele Aug. 1917.

Elsie Grace — Born April 12, 1895 at Innisfail; married George Jessop and lives in Red Deer.

Albert Foster — Born Jan. 10, 1897. Died Nov. 1957. Married Emily Harrington.

George Duncan — Born Jan. 16, 1899. Died Feb. 23, 1969. Married May Curtice of Innisfail. She died Feb. 7, 1937. 3 children: Mary, Georgina and myself (Elsie). Geo. D. married Irene Isaacson in 1939 and had 4 children: Ilene, Enid, Sandra, and Wayne (who died at 7 days.)

John Roy — Born April 1901. Lives at Autumn Glen Lodge in Innisfail.

Donald McGregor — Born Jan. 1903. Lives at Markerville. Married Ethel Cameron in 1928.

Wilfred Laurier — Born Dec. 1905. Died Nov. 1, 1971. Married Mary Sarah Wilkinson.

Harry Abana — Born June 1908. Lives in Edmonton. Married Lloyd Richards.

I recall hearing them speak of the John Durhams, the McLeods and the Haddens. While building on their land, the Malcolms spent the first winter with the McLeod's and the second with the Haddens. The first winter saw heavy snow from the middle of October until May while the winter before there wasn't enough snow for sleighing.

H.A. Malcolm was among those early settlers to meet at the home of Mr. Parker Shultz (where Maggie and Percy Hunt now live) in March of 1893 to set up the Aberdeen School District No. 291. He donated a two acre site on the corner of his land to use as a school site for so long as it used for that purpose. He was also a councillor for the M.D. of Arthur for one term. He was a member of the Independent Order of Oddfellows, and son George Duncan served as a long time member of the Aberdeen Social Club as well as serving on the Aberdeen Picnic committee for 45 years.

H.A. Malcolm died Jan. 3, 1946 and Mrs. Malcolm died May 9, 1950.

JAMES MALCOLM — WILLIAM OLIVER MALCOLM by Ruth (Malcolm) Berube

James Malcolm, originally from Kings Kettle, Fifeshire, Scotland, a ships' carpenter worked as a carpenter in London, Ontario; when work became scarce, he decided to try his luck in the wild west. His wife Jane, an Ontario farmer's daughter, felt confident that they would prosper. They read many brochures published by the C.P.R. and my father (Wm. Malcolm — born in 1883 in London, Ont.) remembered being fascinated by one that said you could drive through the prairie grass near Red Deer, Alta. and have the wheels of your wagon turn red with the juice from the wild raspberries that grew there.

James preceded his family west in 1892 and decided to homestead a quarter 7 miles NE of Innisfail. On his arrival on the homestead, he built a small shack in a natural clearing near a creek bed and began building a proper home of lumber for the family. When spring came, he sent for his wife and children: Mabel 16, Louise 14, William 10, Albert 7 and Ethel 4-1/2. James found his new life very difficult. He was not a farmer and being in his 50's, he was hard put to clear the land to meet the homestead requirements. He had to learn to handle a team of horses, and primitive hand machinery, all new to him, and soon found it imperative to get all the help possible from his children. William, though only 10 years old, was the eldest boy, and it became his job to drive the horses while his father held the plow into the ground or loaded rocks onto the stone boat.

Ethel remembers visiting a natural clearing where the Indians were camped with their tents, horses and travois, many undernourished dogs and shy, sober children. Her mother was afraid for her safety with them, but Ethel sensed that they were harmless and probably more afraid of her than she was of them.

Mabel became a teacher, and got the school at Grahamston for two years; after that at Swan Lake; and then at Willowdale, where she met Bill Hoskin.

Bill came to the farm and helped enormously with the work there for a short time before they were married in 1902. They lived at Willowdale for a few years, before moving to Red Deer.

Louise took a sewing course in Innisfail and as well as doing some sewing for a living, she worked in the Post Office where she met and married Bob Milligan in 1900 and they settled at Pine Lake.

School closed due to snow and cold weather in the worst winter months, and during the summer; and because the boys were needed to help seed in the spring and harvest in the fall, their attendance, especially William's, was sporadic. When they were able to go, Will drove the buggy or cutter down the railroad tracks — this was safe since the trains passed only twice a week, and everyone knew their schedule. When Will and Albert were needed at home, Ethel walked the 4 miles each way alone. Once she saw a big lynx staring down at her from a tree limb, but she wasn't afraid, thinking it was just a beautiful big pussy cat. Although Will's education was very spasmodic, he studied his books at home, became an avid reader, and eventually achieved a Grade 8 education which was as high as one could go without going to Calgary or Edmonton at that time.



Back row: Mabel and Louise; front row: Albert, James Malcolm, Ethel, Jane Malcolm, and William.

Ethel and her mother milked the cows, separated the cream, and made the butter. They had a small churn and a little wooden one-pound mold, and papers to wrap it in for the store. The butter was kept in a big barrel down by the well, and cold water pumped through the barrel each day, the only refrigeration system known. In later years, Charlie Newton came around in a wagon to all the farms to pick up the cream, and then it was the big 5 gallon cream cans that had to be kept cold in the barrels until cream day.

In his late teens and early 20's Will, now called Bill by his friends, became interested in music and started riding into Innisfail to take Cornet lessons. He became a member of the Innisfail Band and still later he joined Bones Orchestra (Harold Murgatroyd was in it with him), and they played for dances and entertainments throughout a wide area around Innisfail.

Albert left the farm to work for the railroad when he was about 18, in 1904, and was away most of the time until he returned very ill in 1910. He developed pneumonia and died at the farm Sept. 11, 1910.

In 1905 Ethel went to Red Deer to visit Mabel, found work at the A.G.T. office, and two years later met Bruce Baxter. They were married at the farm Sept. 20, 1911.

In the fall of 1912 James passed away, at the age of 74 years, leaving his widow and Bill alone on the farm. Bill stayed on the farm looking after his mother until her death at 79 years in 1927.

Bill married Marjory Lamb, originally from Lindsay, Ont., in a quiet ceremony in Calgary in January 1932. Although not a strong person, having suffered from chronic bronchitis and asthma all her life, Marjory seemed to thrive for a few years in the high Alberta climate, and gave birth to three children: Carol, Dec. 25, 1934; Jim, Sept. 1, 1936; and myself, Ruth, April 30, 1939.

Marjory passed away Oct. 28, 1948, and the Malcolm homestead remained in the family until 1964, a year after William's death at the age of 80 years. James, Jane, Albert, Marjorie and William all are buried in the Innisfail Cemetery. Louise and Mabel also predeceased William, but Ethel remains hale and hearty, a resident of Vancouver, B.C. Many of these recollections are hers, and it is with great thanks to her fine memory and co-operation that this was written.

THE J.W. MANUEL FAMILY by Mrs. Joe Manuel

Josiah Winsor Manuel, born in Newfoundland, May 19, 1894 arrived in Innisfail, via British Columbia, in the summer of 1915. After purchasing the Boyd farm (formerly the Charles Stigings farm,) in the Little Red Deer District, his brother Raymond joined him.

The next year, 1916, Joe's mother, Mrs. Mary Manuel, three brothers and two sisters arrived from Newfoundland. A few weeks after their arrival Mrs. Manuel, four of the brothers and one sister were stricken with typhoid fever. Fortunately they all recovered after careful nursing, and with help with the cattle and other outdoor work from neighbors.

The sisters and brothers of Joe were: Georgie (m. Maxwell Edgar) they had 5 children. Raymond (m. Grace Scarlett) they had 2 daughters. Raymond died in 1963. Dorothy (m. Harold Lacey) they had two children and resided in Vancouver. Norman and Neil both of whom were unmarried. Neil died in 1959. Keith (m. Hilda Stigings) — no family. Brother Donald served in W.W.I, having joined the 87th Battalion in Victoria, B.C. He was wounded and came to Innisfail in 1917. He married Violet Adams and they had three daughters. Violet died and he later married Joy McWhinnie. Donald died in 1970.

In 1936 Joe married Winifred Stigings and they have three sons, all graduates of the University of Alberta: Thomas, is a computer programmer residing in Sunnyvale, California. He married Elaine Bowles and they have two sons. Duncan married Myrna

Koch. They farm the family farm and have two sons. These two boys are 5th generation living on this farm. Donald, a professor at the University of Alberta, married Betty Haner. They have two children.

Joe and Winifred retired from mixed farming in 1963 and now reside in Innisfail.

ROBERT MARCIL by Grace Marcil

Robert Marcil was born at Waterbury, Conn, on February 26, 1904. He was one of six children. His mother died when he was eight years old. He arrived in Innisfail in 1923. When he got on the train to come to Alberta, he intended to travel around the world, and today, he doesn't want to leave Innisfail.

Robert was first employed by Wm. Edgar. He remained here for eight years. At this time I was working for Mr. and Mrs. Tom Duncan, who lived fairly close to the Edgars'. We met, and married on his birthday in 1931. We travelled in style on our honeymoon having an Essex Car.

Robert then started farming the Les Cammidge place, west of Innisfail. He had a lovely building spot on the bank of the Red Deer River. He bought a half section of C & E land and after clearing the bush, built a house on it. We moved into this new house with our first son, Joe, who was born in 1933. We had three more sons, George, Gerald and Raymond.

We raised Shorthorn cattle and pigs. I had black minorca hens and hives of bees kept me busy. We also had Percheron and Clyde horses. I recall one horse weighed one ton.

Robert worked for the Poplar Grove Municipality until 1958. It was later he did custom work — plowing and breaking land. He is now employed at the Autumn Glen Lodge and the garden he has there is the pride of Innisfailians.

In 1944, Robert was a director along with Mr. Anderson and Mr. McLaren (and others) for the development of the Red Lodge Park. Robert was in



Grace and Robert Marcil on their Wedding Day.

charge of building a foot bridge and dam across the river. The beavers sealed the bridge in the spring and the ice jam took the bridge out. This park was made into a Government Park which is well known all over Alberta today.

Robert and I (Grace) reside in Innisfail and for some time I was employed at the Innisfail General Hospital.

The Marcil children are:

Joe, married Eileen (Ursal) Runum. They had one child, Sherry. He remarried and he and his wife Julia have five children: Willie, Frank, Nellie, Robert and David. They reside in Winnipeg.

George married Kay Sanborne. They have five children: Teresa, James, Yvonne, Cindy and Marjie. The reside at Creston.

Gerald married Yvette Belland. They have three children: Bonita, Carolyn, Gerald Jr. They live at Britt, Ontario.

Raymond married Darlene Klink. They have two children Brenda and Dean and they live in Calgary.

TOM MARKS by Evelyn Layden

Thomas Marks Born July 1, 1878 at Perth, Ont.; died Mar. 8, 1962 married Dec. 20, 1899.

Elizabeth Kirkham Born Nov. 2, 1879; died Aug. 6, 1957.

In April 1900, Tom and Elizabeth Marks accompanied the Geo. S. Kirkham family to Innisfail. They homesteaded south east of Innisfail; then later moved to Innisfail to live in the house east of the old Percy Bakery building. In 1914 they moved to the house now occupied by Geo. Metzger. Tom Marks worked with bridge crews, draying, carpentering, and many odd jobs. He was with the crew who built the Red Deer River bridge west of town. Mrs. Marks at one time clerked in the G. W. West store. They endured many hardships, but were always willing to lend a helping hand. Many children whose parents were ill, or working, or convalescing, were often looked after by Mrs. Marks.

Children:

Elmer, their first child, was born Feb. 27, 1901. He worked as a barber with his Uncle Fleet Kirkham and Alec Munro, in the building that is now the Percy's Confectionery. He married Minnie Roeth of Didsbury, who died in 1935. In 1937 Elmer married Clara Baird, moved to High River where he had a pool hall and barber shop. He died in Nov. 1963.

Lloyd was born Dec. 12, 1904. A farmer in the Aberdeen district, he married May Owens in 1951. Four children: Alice, Bob, Wayne and Joe. Lloyd died on June 26, 1971.

May was born July 11, 1906. She worked in the cafe operated by Minnie Dallas. Married to Claude MacDonald on Nov. 5, 1928. They now live in Edmonton and have two children, Wilma and Norman.

William Born Aug. 16, 1908. He barbered with Fleet; then moved to Eckville and married Georgina Robertson on Feb. 11, 1928. Served with the RCAF 1941-45. William and Georgina operate the Marks TV Store at Sylvan Lake; son Bill, Jr. and wife Betty live at Medicine Hat.



Marks Family. Back row: Ernest, Bill, May, Lloyd, Elmer; front row: Ila, Elizabeth Marks, Tom Marks, Vivian, and Evelyn.

Ruth Born Oct. 1910; died Feb. 1911.

Ernest Born Feb. 25, 1912. He joined the Army in 1942. In July 1945, he married Ann Farrell in London and they returned to Innisfail in 1946. Ernie works at the Stramit Plant in Innisfail. They have three daughters and one son: Margaret (Branson) at Olds; Marie (Jensen) at Calgary; Eva, in England; Tom, at home.

Evelyn Born Dec. 6, 1914. She worked for AGT; then married Gordon Layden of Knee Hill Valley on Dec. 31, 1936. They are living on the farm with two sons, Ken and Larry; and one son in Red Deer, Mervin.

Vivian Born Aug. 25, 1918. Attended Calgary Normal School and taught at Delburne, Huxley, and Manville. Married Joe Stewart and farmed at Manville until the late 60's when they moved to Vermilion and operate the Vermilion Trailor Sales. They have three daughters and one son: Doris, Mavis, Mary and Ken.

Ila Born June 3, 1920. Married Hugh Morrison of Barrhead in 1940. Five children. Hugh died in 1957. Ila married Henry Morrison in 1961, who died later that year. Ila now operates "Ila's Sewing Basket" in Westlock. Children: Marvin, Wayne, Diane, Sharilyn, Colleen.

GEORGE MARSH by Mrs. Ernie Hewitt

George Marsh, my grandfather, was born in Lancashire in 1846. He came to the Knee Hill Valley because he had heard of the quantities of cheap land. It was in 1901 he arrived. He was accompanied by a son-in-law, John Arrowsmith. His three daughters followed a little later coming from Pipestone, Minnesota.

In England he was a master builder and contractor. When he got here he became a rancher and farmer. In the spring, the machinery had not come and the Marshes wanted a vegetable garden. So with a spade they removed all the top sod from the garden site, and planted the seeds in the nice black earth. The seeds came up, but only grew a few inches. It was later Marshes found out that the top soil needed to lie a year and rot. Consequently that first year they had no

garden and were always short of vegetables, often having none.

Grandfather built a frame house — most others were log. To keep warm in cold weather — wood had to be cut by hand. Mosquitoes were extremely bad and would follow cattle in “clouds”. Much of transportation was by foot and there was the thick spear grass to contend with which would stick to clothing. Wells had to be dug, cattle had to be collected, and there weren’t any fences so that they could wander for miles. Cows had to be milked and even learning to milk, for some, was no easy task.

The three Marsh daughters were: Helen (Mrs. John Arrowsmith) — they had three children; Margaret Mabel (Mrs. Jim Scott) and Cecilia (Mrs. William Shirley Bilton Jr.)

Their first neighbors were George Thornes, Allison, Gunstons, Jensens, Hunts, Biltons, Velges, Maclarens and Hewitts. Their first caller was Mrs. Thorne who brought a bundle of Lady Aberdeen magazines to read. She invited the girls to come to tea the following Sunday. When they got there they couldn’t see a house. Finally, they saw a stove pipe sticking out of the ground and the girls found out that the Thorne home was in the side of a hill, roofed over with poles and sod — very comfortable, except for the sod roof leaking when it rained. It was later that the Thornes built a big log house. Will Gunston sold stock (cows) to newcomers and hauled lumber from Innisfail. Part of their log house was in the hillside too.

Mr. Marsh made the first “over throw” hay stacker in the district for himself and also made several for the neighbors. He made a horse-power sawing machine for sawing stove wood. Later he attached it to a gasoline engine. He was of an inventive turn of mind and invented a submarine trap during W.W. I for which he received a letter of acknowledgement from the Prime Minister of England.

The social life of the community consisted of visiting back and forth, choir practices, surprise parties, dancing and pulling taffy, pony races, foot races, bucking horse riding, and horse pulling contests were enjoyed at picnics. The settlers from England attended cricket matches. In 1905 the Silver wedding of Mr. and Mrs. William Gunston was celebrated. Church services were held in the school and an Anglican minister (Mr. Whitehead) came from Innisfail to conduct the services. Regular choir practices were held at the houses of those who had a piano (Velges, Jensens & Marshes). The Nolan Brothers were the “callers-off” at dances. When George Thornes moved into their new log house Marshes’ piano was borrowed. For school dances music was supplied by William Schwerdfeger and violin. Phil Holden and William Whealon were always asked to “Step dance”.

Alquire and Leaches’ share-cattle to the settlers played a big part in providing a livelihood. They provided milk, cream and meat. When the creamery and cheese factory came into being in Innisfail the milk and cream were sold to them and butter and

eggs traded for groceries. Butter was worth about 25c lb. (top price) and from 12-1/2 to 17-1/2 lb. butterfat was paid for the cream and back cheques were received in the winter.

When the Marshes came to the district Miss Jessie Whiteside was teaching in the first frame school. She later married Howard Wynn. She had boarded at Wynns while teaching. The school was the Pleasant Valley school. The first families with children attending this school were: Hewitts, Hunts, Biltons, Allison, Gunstons, Wynns, Tams, Littles, Marshes, Gilletts and the Jardines.

Early families were William Gunston, George Thornes, Joe Allison, Hunts (Hi and Harry), Biltons, Maclarens, Whealons, Jensens (Jim, Hannah, Polly & William), William Hewitts, Wynns and Velges. They were all trying to be farmers after getting homesteads. Bill Whealon was a blacksmith, Walter and John farmed.

Mr. Marsh happened to visit Allison and he found that Mrs. Allison had broken her arm. Her husband did not get a doctor but set the arm himself. Mr. Marsh was shocked and insisted that a doctor should come.

I was a charter member of the Knee Hill Valley Womens’ Institute, now disbanded. Early members were myself, Mrs. Archie Hoar, Mrs. N.E. White, Mrs. Frank Smith, Mrs. Clarence Holt, Mrs. Alex Gerrard Sr., Mrs. Spence Thurston, Mrs. John Barclay, Mrs. Eli Leischner, Mrs. Lester Saunders, Mrs. Fred Schaefer, Mrs. Paul Schaefer, Mrs. Nelson Stringer, Mrs. Andy Mundie and Mrs. Allen Smith.

Mr. George Marsh died on August 29, 1937 and is interred in Vancouver, B.C.

ARTHUR MARSHALL (MILNER DISTRICT) by Mrs. McGorman

Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Marshall came from Nanaimo in 1903. They had two daughters, Louise (Mrs. Harold Wilson) and Cecilia (Mrs. John Thurston).

The Marshalls’ lived in a black-smith shop on a farm until their house was built which was a replica of many on homesteads in the early days. One big room tar papered on the outside, very little furniture and no place to put anything. Their piano never was moved out of Innisfail. Mr. Marshall sold it to Jesse Stewart in Innisfail. Mrs. Marshall was very unhappy, and she longed to go back to Nanaimo — but to no avail as there was no money. She was a practical nurse and soon was of great demand as a maternity nurse. People for miles — would seek her in all sorts of conveyances. One time a farmer came with a steer and a cow hitched to a wagon. Slow process, but better than walking for her. She often stayed a week or more to care for the family as well as the Mother and baby. She never received money for her services, but often went home with a calf, a pig, chickens, eggs and once a cow.

Mr. & Mrs. Marshall sold out in 1919 and went back to the coast and settled in Vancouver. Their daughter Cecilia and John Thurston went back in 1920.

ARTHUR, HESLAM & DAVID MARSHALL by Joe Marshall

My father, Arthur Marshall was born in Auburn, Lincolnshire, England in 1875. At the age of nine he went out to work to help support the family as his father had been crippled in a farm accident. While working on one of the farms in Lincolnshire he met Sam Dalton and was given his address in Iowa, U.S.A. Sam was visiting his home in England. When Dad was 18 years old he left England and arrived in New York, March 7, 1894 and went immediately to Sam Daltons in Tabor, Iowa. Here he worked on neighboring farms during the summer and attended school in the winters. Here too, he met my mother Mary Catherine Grosse. They were married March 7, 1900.

My grandfather, William Grosse, came from Lincolnshire, England, the same area where my father had lived. Mother told of her great grandfather (maternal) coming to America at the time of the Mayflower. He was an orphan and at 9 years of age he helped pole a craft up the Allegheny river. Mothers' great grandmother came from Indiana, through Illinois to Iowa by covered wagon when a young girl. She told of Indians coming to the wagons while the men were away. They gave the Indians the intestines of some chickens they were preparing for the evening meal and they went away satisfied.

After the marriage, Dad and Mother farmed in Iowa on rented land for seven years, then because farm property was so high priced in that area they decided to immigrate to Canada — following the example of Sam Dalton and Allison Stevenett who had married Rachel Heslam (aunt of my Dad's) They arrived in Innisfail in March 1905.

Meanwhile, in 1895 Heslam Marshall (Dads' brother) went to Iowa and returned to England in 1896 to join the Imperial army and was sent to South Africa where he fought in the Boer War. In August, 1905 Heslam returned to Canada bringing his youngest brother David, his mother and his two sisters Dora and Carrie. Dora later married Jim Gellatly who was a butcher in Innisfail. They later moved to Princeton, B.C. where she still resides. Carrie was a telephone operator in Innisfail up until the time of her death in 1935.

Heslam and David came west to Innisfail to Stevenettes and the women folks went to Iowa to stay with my father and mother before coming to Alberta Feb. 6, 1906.

In April 1906, Miss Jean Lawson came from Scotland to marry Heslam the day after her arrival here. They rented the Spruces and that became the family head quarters for the next three years.

It is interesting to note that Sam Dalton, Will & Allison Stevenett, Charles & William Newton and Arthur, Heslam & David Marshall all came from the same location in England, immigrated to Iowa about the same time, and later settled in the Innisfail area.

In March, 1907 Arthur & Mary Marshall came by rail to the Innisfail district directly from Iowa. Their livestock and equipment with a load of settlers' ef-

fects was 17 days en route. For the next 6 years they rented 3 separate farms in the area close to town, then, the Joe Smith farm and from there to the Buckham farm in the Grahamston district. It was in 1908 the family filed on homesteads in the Carrot Creek area (west of Edmonton). For two years, Dad made trips there to prove up on the homesteads, once with Heslam and one year with David. On one trip they had to cross the Pembina river when it was in flood. The wagon box floated off the running gear and all their food and gear was either soaked or lost in the river. The wet food soon spoiled and they were forced to buy pemmican from the Indians to live on. Another hazard of that area was the abundance of black flies. They had to keep the horses ears greased with axel grease to keep them from contracting swamp fever. Needless to say, they gave up those homesteads and decided to remain in the Innisfail area.

Late in the fall of 1911, David returned to England and married Miss A. Gertrude Franklin on Feb. 1, 1912 at Warwickshire. They arrived back in Innisfail on March 4th, the same year. Two children David (b. 1914) and Nancy (b. 1917) arrived while they resided at Riverside farm. Dave sold this farm in 1920 to Dave Morton and they went to England where he farmed a short while, but returned and rented a farm 1 1/2 mi north of Innisfail from Mr. Gardner Smith. He farmed for a year before returning to Lincolnshire to rent land until the depression years. Once again he returned to Canada, but to Duval, Sask. for 4 years and later at Pelly, Sask. In 1936 he became a lay minister and gave full time to the United Church ministry. David retired in 1960 at Eatonias, Sask, but in 1961 bought a home in Innisfail where he and Gertrude lived until Davids death in Jan. 1970. Gertrude now resides in Calgary where she is close to their son David and his family. Nancy passed away in 1927 and is buried at Tullethy, Horncastle, Lincolnshire, England.

Heslam and Jean and family Lottie (b. 1907), Jim (b. 1909) and Blair (1910) bought a farm north of Innisfail from the Fair Bros. in 1912. It was here that two sons were born: Allen (1918) and Phil (1919). Allen passed away in 1936 and Jean in 1937. Heslam remained on the farm (with son Blair who still farms the home place) until his passing in 1963. Lottie (Mrs. L.W. Turnbull resides in Victoria B.C. Jim has retired from teaching and lives in Edmonton and Phil lives south of Red Deer.

By 1913, the Daltons had decided to sell out and go back to Iowa, so Arthur and Mary bought their 1/2 section north east of Innisfail in the Antler Hill district Rachael (b. 1902) is Mrs. Fred Pollock and they reside in the Knee Hill Valley district; George (b. 1906) resided in the Innisfail area until his passing in 1937.; Mabel (b. 1907) is Mrs. Peter Fox and lives in Calgary; Fred (b. 1910) farms in the Aberdeen district; Sam (b. 1918) passed away in 1936.; I, Joe, was born in 1919 and have spent my life on the family farm. Dad went to Victoria in 1941 and made his home with Will & Beckie Stevenette un-

til 1943 when he bought a home and moved Mother to the coast. They returned to Innisfail in 1950 and here resided until Dad passed away in 1954 and mother in 1958. With the exception of Nancy, all the Marshalls who have passed away are buried in the Innisfail cemetery.

I married Pearl Kennedy in 1943 and we have two daughters: Roberta (Mrs. James Simpson) and Heather (Mrs. Jack Hill) Both reside in the Aberdeen district.

All these years later, our daughter Heather married a grandson of the Newtons who came from the same place in England, went to the same place in Iowa and finally to Innisfail Alberta together with the Marshalls.

MR. & MRS. JACK MARSHALL by Margaret Anderson Marshall & Eleanor Jean Marshall

Ethel Anderson, who later became Mrs. Jack Marshall, arrived in Innisfail, N.W.T. in the year 1904. She had left her home in Prince Edward Island to join her brother, Jim Anderson, who was living in Calgary. Before settling down, she delivered a gift of preserved fruit, which had been sent by relatives in P.E.I., to the family of Lottie Gard. At a wedding reception on the night of her arrival she met Mr. G.W. West, another Prince Edward Islander, who persuaded her to remain in Innisfail and become his bookkeeper.

John Marshall arrived in Innisfail on a stop-over while touring the new province of Alberta in either 1905 or 1906. He had left his home in Stockport, England to find a new home in Canada. Mr. West met him as he was looking around and, after finding out that he had some experience as a butcher, hired him to work in his store.

Ethel and Jack met at the G.W. West General Store and became good friends. They were married in the Presbyterian Church on Oct. 17, 1909.

Their first child, Margaret, was born in 1910 while they were living about a half mile north of Innisfail. The old spruce trees are still standing but the original house is gone. Margaret had her first three years of schooling at Innisfail and remembers Miss Faye Sherwood and Miss Agnes Sherwood as teachers. She shared a desk with Jean Ash and remembers quite a few classmates. She graduated from High School, Normal School, the University of Alberta and became a teacher. Her first teaching experience was at Ridgewood School, west of Penhold. After training in Toronto University, she joined the Special Education Dept. of the Calgary School system where she worked until retiring in 1972.

Their second child, Eleanor Jean, was born in 1912. Her first year at school was cut short by the 'flu epidemic which struck Innisfail in 1918. She moved with the family to Calgary in 1919 and completed her schooling there. After High School she attended Normal School and began her teaching career. Later she graduated from the University of Alberta and became an elementary school principal and worked in that capacity until retiring in 1972.

The family had made many friends in Innisfail and made frequent visits back to their home town in an open sided Maxwell car. The road from Calgary to Innisfail became very slippery when it rained so the driving was often quite dangerous.

The friends remembered particularly were: Mr. & Mrs. Dallas, Edna, Margaret and Norma; Mr. & Mrs. Bye, Doris and Betty; Mr. and Mrs. Benton, Olive, Gladys and Jimmy; Jane and Annie Dea and Allan; Mr. & Mrs. West, Gladys, Jack and Frank; Mr. & Mrs. Constantine; Dr. Gribble and his wife Queenie and Miss Jury.

In the early days it was a special treat to have a dish of ice-cream at Billington's Ice Cream Parlor and of course, a shopping spree at West's Store. "Mud Lake" area was a favorite picnic spot. Excursions for picking wild raspberries and saskatoons provided the incentive for many family excursions into the country. The east banks of the Medicine River was a favorite spot for berry picking. The Rose Ball, a gala event, was enjoyed by the whole family.

Jack Marshall worked as a cattle buyer for Canada Packers in Calgary for a number of years. He enjoyed buying trips into the country and his contacts with farmers and ranchers. He died in May 1949.

Ethel Marshall was active in church and community affairs in Calgary until her death in May 1963. Margaret and Jean still live in Calgary.

J.M. MARSHALL STORY by Dorothy Marshall

John Mills Marshall was born at Gateshead Durham County, England in 1872. He married Florence Ellen Bytheway in 1895. (she was born in Birmingham England in 1876). Father was employed by a chartered accountant firm in Birmingham at the time of their marriage. J.M. Jr. "Toby" and Maud Ellen "Queenie" were born there. They moved to Sheffield and it was here that Frank, Winifred and Henry "Harry" were born.

In 1904, Father came to Canada bringing the two oldest boys. Toby was in school fifty miles away at Walsall. Frank was attending kindergarten at the time. Exaggerated stories of opportunities to be found here is what brought them. Mother arrived in Innisfail some months later with the other children



Mr. J. M. Marshall

and a servant. Father was bookkeeping at G.W. West's and Reginald was born in Innisfail. They lived in the house more recently owned by E. Freeman. They also lived at Red Deer and Edmonton where father was employed as an accountant with the C.P.R.

Our homestead was 10 miles east of Innisfail. It was covered with trees, with clay soil and many stones. We were always short of water there. The trees did bring in some income. When they were cut down and trimmed some were sawn up and sold for fire wood, rails and fence pickets.

It was a 4 mile walk to Hill End School. Clarendon school wasn't completed until 1913. I (Dorothy) was born after they moved here. Richard and Rupert were born on the farm. Richard died at 11 months. Queenie is almost entirely self-educated because of having to stay home from school to help mother. The servant didn't like the place and moved away.

To pay bills we had to part with valuables such as sets of books, and pictures. As wild game was plentiful we were each taught at an early age the proper way to handle a gun. The boys had trap lines. They sold furs of weasel, lynx, muskrat and coyote.

Wild berries were plentiful. Herbs were used to advantage in cooking and as medicine.

Reading was encouraged and we had a supply of good books. Later a piano was acquired which afforded much enjoyment. There was much unfenced land and hunters with many kinds of beautiful dogs were to be seen. Now and then, one of the dogs would be lost and stay with us. This made for unhappy partings.

Father and Toby enlisted in the 187 Battalion. Toby died of wounds Nov. 2, 1917 receiving them in the Passchendale Ridge offensive. Father held the rank of sergeant and was retained in the war office in London.

Mother and Queenie were involved in war work with the Hill End Ladies Aid. Later, Queenie joined the Innisfail Telephone. In 1926 she was transferred to Nanton as chief operator and 5 years later moved to Vulcan. In 1938 she left the telephone Co. and



Back row: Winnie, Queenie, Frank, Mrs. J. M. Marshall, and Harry. Front row: Reg, Dorothy and Rupert.

went into Ladies-Ready-To-Wear (a business she owned for a number of years). She was an ardent sportswoman, and an English Church member where she sang in the choir. Her last venture was to buy a hotel in Rosebud which she operated successfully for 8 years. She still lives there.

Winnie went to Kamloops, graduating as a nurse in 1925. She won the prize for general proficiency. She nursed in the 3 western provinces. When matron at Summerland, she was awarded the Kings' medal, the Silver Jubilee award. Returning to Innisfail, she opened a 5c to \$1. Store. She was married to Vernon Fox and has a stepson Douglas (Calgary) and son Marshall (Innisfail).

Frank left home at an early age to do farm work. Mr. A.W. Baker employed him for some years. He married Delma Tolley. Their farm is 8 mi. east of Innisfail. He is a member of the Innisfail Legion No. 104 and the Orange Lodge. They have 10 children.

Harry's place is 10 miles east across from where we lived. Late in life he married Mildred Pomeroy. They have a son and daughter.

Reg married Edith Bradley. They also farm in the Clarendon District. Reg served on the Innisfail Hospital board for ten years.

Rupert moved to Innisfail again about 1940 to work at Dick's Service Station, later for Innisfail Motors. He owned the taxi business for a while. He married Catherine Svatos. Their son Terence was born in Innisfail. He left Sev. Motors to join the A.P. grain Co. and moved to Carstairs where he was a grain buyer for years. Richard and Deborah were born in Carstairs. He is a past master of the Knights of Pythias Lodge No. 33, a member of the Canadian Legion. He now lives in Innisfail with me (Dorothy).

Father returned to accountancy work in 1942 in Innisfail. He and mother moved into town when the farm was sold to Mr. J. Quartly. He was Sec. Treas. for the Innisfail Legion for a time and a member. Mother passed away in 1952. Father was Secretary for the Innisfail Feeders Assn. He died in 1962 still at that work.

Tho' there were times of extreme longing by those who'd never again see relatives and friends they'd left, a whole way of life gone — there were happy times as well — riding behind sleigh bells in winter, new little things of spring — fluffy chickens, playful kittens, lambs and colts — strawberries along the roadside. Oh, for some of that out door life again!

James O. Bennett, a carpenter came from England. Was a veteran of the Northwest Rebellion of 1885. Came to Innisfail in 1891. Homesteaded (now owned by Harry Moore, Pioneer).

MARTIN STORY by Floyd Martin

William N. Martin came to the Innisfail district in 1904 from Whitefish Montana, where he had been engaged in railroad construction. He brought his equipment with him also his camp cook and three or

four of his crew. He settled on a 1/4 section of land in the Dickson District.

He was born in Sweden, his parents having immigrated to Minnesota. I often heard him say he left home at the age of 8 yrs. He married Ammanda Anderson (who was born in Nebraska). The fall of 1905, he took his railroad building equipment to Alix, Alberta where he had contracted a piece of work. There were many hardships — glanders struck his horses and they had to be shot by the Canadian officials. Diptheria struck the camp and after helping nurse several of the crew his wife became ill and as a result they returned to their farm where son Floyd was born (June 6, 1907). He moved to Innisfail where he operated a harness shop for a short while. Another son Alfred was born. In 1908 they left for Oregon and on to California. Alfred died here. On June 29, 1911 Marie was born at Newberg, Ore. They returned to Innisfail soon after and on August 13, 1921 Stanley was born.

In 1932 Floyd started Martin's Cartage. This business operated from then until 1972 — with a fleet of 16 trucks.

Floyd is married to Verna Patterson and has two sons, Eddie and Rodney.

Marie was married to Bill Jensen. They ran the builders' Hardware in Olds and a Variety store in Olds and later Bowden where Marie passed away.

Stan was in the Canadian Army, returning to work with Martins' cartage. Stan is living in Calgary with his wife, Ella Mickelson and their two children.

After the passing of Bill Martin, his wife remained in Innisfail for some years prior to her passing away.

I remember Kansas — all the kids at school knew him. He had long scrawny fingers that reached for his percentage at the Canuk Card Club. I belonged to this organization along with Tom White, Ches Howard, Sid Jensen and recall that Oliver St. Denis was the errand boy.

MATHER FAMILY by Thomas Edward Mather and Ken Phillips

Angus Mather, born in Durness, Southernshire, Scotland in 1864 came to Canada to work on his uncle's ranch at Kamloops, B.C. in 1889. Angus wrote to his brother Duncan, born in 1866, that Canada had more opportunities for young persons than fishing for herring, tending sheep, looking after a lighthouse or even poaching. In 1891, Duncan met his brother in Calgary, they bought a team and wagon and drove north to homestead in the Horse Shoe Lake district, S.W. & S.E.20-34-27-4. They built a log house on the line between their two homesteads. Times were very hard and they and their neighbors Matt & Tom Hamilton, Bob, John and Tom Smith lived on rabbits and indeed wore gunny sacks as part of their clothing. Angus worked part time in a copper mine in the interior of B.C. while Duncan stayed to break up the land.

Angus did not know much about prairie fires but learned the hard way. The first spring he was on the homestead, he thought it would be nice to burn the old hay bottom off so he would have nice clean hay



Duncan Mather with his team in front of Commerce Bank in Innisfail.

land. Well, the thought was all right, but never should have gone past that. He lit the fire, it burned north to Red Deer, east to the river at Trochu and south at points into Montana. Duncan and Angus were able to plough a fire guard and save their buildings but lost all their cattle feed and a lot of their cattle.

When the Mather brothers first came their only neighbor was Mr. Hadden at the north end of Horse Shoe Lake, who later sold to Mr. Roper. When the Hamilton Bros. first came they didn't know too much about the habits of horses. They had just bought their team in Calgary, turned them loose when they arrived and the next morning they were gone. Tom Hamilton came over and Angus gave him a horse to ride and told him to keep going south until he found his team because they would be on their way back to High River from where they came. He rode Dad's work horse bareback all the way to High River for them and said after the first two days it was a pleasure to get off and walk.

About 1900 Duncan sent back to Scotland for his wife Christina and their daughter Joanne (12 yrs. old).

In those early days the N.W.M.P. played a large roll in the life of the settler. They rode around twice a year to see that the settlers had enough to eat and to keep an eye out for cattle rustling. At that time it was rumored that if a beast reached Pat Burn's packing plant that no questions were asked about the brand, if any or ownership and if there were, his good friend Paddy Nolan, the famous criminal lawyer, would answer them.

As time went on, the settlers turned also to raising grain and horses. This meant that they also had to have machinery to do their harvesting. The machine companies' deals with the settlers, who had very little money and even less business sense, would have made Shylock look like a Sunday School teacher. Once when Duncan owed a balance on a note for a binder a very arrogant and persistent collector came along demanding the money or the deed for the farm. At the time, Duncan, Angus, Phil Holden (an expert broadaxe man), and others were raising a log house. When Duncan let out a roar and took after the collector, he ran down into the lake up to his neck in water. One of the men brought his briefcase and horse down

to the lake and assured him no harm was meant if he left the country.

In the first years before the railroad, Duncan and Angus along with Tom and Matt Hamilton trailed cattle to Calgary once a year to sell. They used to start out about the first of May and let the cattle graze all the way down. They had one team with a wagon load of hay and supplies and one saddle horse. They used the hay rack to sleep under and it took about a month for the trip. But when G.W. West opened a store in Innisfail and then the railroad came through, the homesteaders were on cloud nine. Shopping was done in Innisfail and Mr. West bartered in anything you had. He took in wild rabbits in the winter, froze them, and shipped them east. "G.W." was a kindly man who never saw anyone go hungry. However, the womenfolk didn't much like the big cat who slept in the cracker barrel.

After the first World War, Duncan's daughter Joanne married Robert Phillips. They had four children: Norma, Dolly, Robert and Ken. Robert Phillips died in 1947 and Joanne Phillips at age 84 in 1972. Ken Phillips, Duncan's grandson, is farming the homestead. Dolly, Mrs. Les Pallin is in Red Deer; Robert farms at Rocky Mtn. House.

Angus Mather married a widow, Mrs. Alice Hamilton, with two children and they had four children. Alice Hamilton passed away in 1914. Children: Minnie Hamilton m. Edward Debell; William Hamilton Sylvester, died as a young boy in 1914. Annie, died at age 3 in 1907. Hazel m. Alvin Smith; now lives in Victoria, B.C. Thomas Edward m. Tressa Whitmore; living in Victoria, B.C.

Angus, after retirement, made many trips over the mountains to visit his uncle John MacLeod whom he worked for when he first came to Canada. Mr. MacLeod lived to be almost 100 years old and Angus died in 1951 at age 85, and is buried in Innisfail. Mitchell Mather, a nephew of Angus and Duncan, came from Durness, Scotland in 1923 and farmed with Duncan. He married Agnes Wilson of Scotland. Mitchell died in 1968.

MEMOIRS OF A SCION OF NOBILITY by Charles H.W. Maynard

The Earls of Kingston, Ireland, originated in the 16th century, conferred by George III in gratitude for services rendered to the kingdom. With the title went vast tracts of land on which several castles were built. Amongst these were Rockingham, Kilonau, and Mitchellstown, the latter the outstanding showplace in Ireland. During the Irish uprising in 1916, Mitchellstown Castle was completely burnt out with the loss of priceless treasures. This tragic event was committed by the Irish Republican Army on orders from their head commander. A few years ago, Rockingham Castle met the same ending with all its contents quite destroyed. More recently, Kilonau Castle (now quite neglected and falling apart) was sold to a local coal dealer and used to store hay and cattle feed.

The present Earl of Kingston now lives in England. Over the years a branch of the old Kingston family — the Earl of Rosse (I still correspond with him),



Kilonau Castle, Ireland; home of Charles Maynard's mother.

resides at Birr Castle, a lovely well-kept estate with outstanding gardens. These are open to the public, but not the castle. Before her marriage to the Hon. J.W. Warburton of the foreign office in London, Lady Kingston, the only daughter of Robert and Anne, the 6th Earl and Countess of Kingston (my great-grandparents) lived at Kilonau Castle. She was a lady-in-waiting to Queen Victoria and upon her retirement from the Queen's services (she was to be married), the Queen presented her with various items including a lovely 5 pearl ring and fan which I now have.

The Earl at one time gave a house party at Mitchellstown Castle in honor of the Prince of Wales (later King Edward). To entertain the Prince, a theatrical group was hired from London and while in residence were given the freedom of the castle. My Mother was present at the gathering and my father was one of the actors in the London group. My Mother's parents had great plans in store for her, but she met my father and they ran away and were married in London. Needless to say, her people were furious at the thought of her marrying beneath her station and all but disowned her. For a time, Mother lived with the Earl and Countess at Kilonau. On April 15, 1895, I was born and my parents started to make plans to come to Canada. In the meantime at Kilonau, endless things were being gathered together for the long trip ahead. At last the time came to leave — so with countless trunks and boxes that contained household articles, linens, carpets, drapes, silverware, and things too numerous to mention, they left for the wilds of Canada.

In 1896, my parents and I arrived in Innisfail, landing at the old station across from the present station. Behind the station was the Constantine home, while up the hill was the Murray Hotel and Dr. Georges' big brick house with several homes between, including the headquarters for the R.C.M.P. This latter building was later moved beside the Fire Hall. My parents bought a ranch out east near Horseshoe Lake and as neighbors were the Wades, the Feads, and Alec Buckham, Johnny McCormick, Mrs. Robinson and her son Bill and daughter Annie. Across the road were the Van Ness family. At the end of the 1800's, several old country people, including my parents,

formed a hunting club and used to have regular periods for the equivalent of a Fox Hunt. The meeting place was at the railroad crossing by Joe Delong's house. Only, the fox in this case was a coyote. In those days there were no fences, so they used to go up the old Edmonton trail and gallop over the open prairie after coyotes.

As ranchers, my parents were quite at a loss and to say the least, their efforts were a far cry from a successful venture. As the years went by, my father became a heavy drinker and abused my poor mother terribly. At times, when things became unbearable, my mother would take me down to Mrs. Robinsons until father sobered up. In his perverted sense of humour, he appeared to take a fiendish delight in scaring my mother to death. In 1901, my mother was expecting, so moved into town and stayed with me at Mrs. Foster's home. While there, she used to frequently visit Mrs. Varty, who was a great friend to us both. On one of his drunken trips to town, my father brought in a baby pig. He opened mother's bedroom window — threw in the pig and yelled, "Here's a baby for you, Emmie."



Charlie Maynard and his two friends.

After mothers' death in 1901, I was taken out to live with Mrs. Caseau a few miles from town. Her husband was a mounted policeman; and later I was taken back to my father on the ranch. While playing outside one day, I came across the remains of a bonfire, and young as I was (6 years old), I recognized some bits of mothers' clothes. In tears, I ran inside and told my father what I had found. He said he did not want these things to remind him of mother so had burnt endless beautiful gowns of real silk and brocade. Shortly afterward, he sold the ranch to the MacDiarmid family, and we moved into town to a one-room shack situated between Charlie Gray and Lauder. From this time on, father drank heavily and as he ran out of money, sold various articles of my mothers. I was just left to run wild — receiving little or no schooling; it was a mere existence, to say the

least. Our shack was moved several times and finally rested next door to a Mr. & Mrs. Kirkham, Freams on the other side, then Kemp's, and on the corner across from Currie's store was Bessie Brewster's home.

The first theatre was over Currie's store; then later over Simpsons Feed store where Frank Thompson worked. Goulter's Hardware was turned into the theatre — next to the Alberta Hotel run by Mr. & Mrs. Lundy with their children Arthur, Annabelie, Lillian, Mrs. Kemp, Eva and Ella. In looking back upon the dear old days so many names come to mind that I knew so well. There was dear old Mary St. Deny (Margaret Wilsons' mother) who worked for Mrs. Lundy; Mr. & Mrs. Playle, the photographer that father bought out; Miss A. Simpson, the Gearys, the Wests, Stewarts, Hetheringtons, Rankins, the Kremers (Mr. Kremer had his blacksmith shop behind Kemp's livery barn), Andersons' livery barn, Fumertons' Store, Aspinalls, F.M. Oldham, Fred Rogers (the latter, in 1906, started the boys' choir in St. Marks' Anglican Church of which I was a member along with Orlie Foster, Shepherd Barwis, the Bryan boys, Jack West with Marjory Bryan as organist); Tommy Whites' bakery, Mr. & Mrs. Detlor and Olive; Mrs. Simpson, Arthur and Maggie....

In Goulter's Opera house I well remember the various shows that used to come to town; to name a few — The Juvenile, Bostonians, The Hypnotist, Dixie Minstrels, Oliver J. Ebhardt & Co. and the Frazer Pierrots.

About this time dancing lessons were given in the Opera House with Mrs. Boucher usually playing the piano and the dances taught were the square dance, waltz, two-step three-step, French Minuet, polka... At dances, you danced properly, or you did not get on the floor — you wouldn't dare — I well remember Tom Lauder taking lessons and learning the art of being graceful on the floor.

About this time a circus came to town and included a balloon being filled with hot air and smoke from a fire in a trench to one side. When the balloon went up it carried an acrobat on a trapeze dangling below it. Meanwhile, up on mocassin flats where Mary Deny



Charlie Maynard in uniform, with his adopted parents of Morley on left.

lived, she and Mrs. Frank Thomson were sitting on the grass chatting. The balloon was over the heads of these ladies when the acrobat cut loose and came down under a parachute. The balloon turned upside down, belching black smoke, and nearly landed on top of these ladies, really scaring the day-lights out of them.

And now, after all these years, so very few of the dear old faces remain. It makes me think of something I read years ago:

Gone but not forgotten
Though absent, ever dear.
The tom-toms cease
And the fires grow cold
While songs of their echos die
And what have we left,
But the grave beneath,
While above — the waiting sky.

H.E. MAYO by Dorothy (Mayo) Frazer

H.E. Mayo was born at Corsham, England on Nov. 20, 1868. He went to New Zealand to farm, but on the outbreak of the Boer War he served for a year in the Border Horse in South Africa. In 1904 he came to the Innisfail district to buy land. In June 1906, he married Ella Stevens of Clyde, Central Otago, New Zealand. Their children were Herbert E. ('Sam'), Ralph, and Dorothy. Dorothy married Frank H. Frazer in 1931.

One story I remember Tom Hamilton told my Dad — Tom went to call on Mr. Peters, who had homesteaded our farm and finally located him having a bath at the back of the house, in a tub directly under the upstairs window. Without disclosing his presence, Tom picked up a pail of cold water, went upstairs, and dumped it on Mr. Peters from the upstairs window!

Neighbors that I recall are the George Lee Warners, Medleys, Hamiltons, Krauses, Mathers, Feads, MacDiarmids, Cox's, Tolleys, Wades, Gilrays, Gates, Mrs. Buckham, Gordons, Sharrattes and Harry Wills.

I remember the May 1919 snow storm. My father dug a path to the barn and people disappeared in it. My mother was up to her shoulders in snow trying to reach the granary. People travelled miles trying to get feed for their stock. My father and the Hamiltons had extra hay.

I can remember Tom Hamilton telling me that he walked 14 miles to town expecting a remittance from home — there was nothing at the post office, so he walked the 14 miles back home and he and Matt lived off the land.

I went to Grahamston School; schoolmates I remember are Hazel and Lily Tolley, Clarence Carr, Archie Fead, Montgomerys, one of the Schroeder girls (very pretty and so nice to me). Teachers were Dorothy Gilray and Helen MacDiarmid.

My father died April 5, 1922 and my mother May 16, 1965. My brothers Ralph and Sam are still on the farm and have established a successful purebred Hereford ranch.

MR. & MRS. EPHRIAM McALLISTER by Mrs. Jack McAllister

Mr. Ephriam McAllister arrived in the Innisfail area in 1890. He was born in Kerrick Fergiss County, Antrim, Ireland, Feb. 21, 1856. He arrived in Canada in 1883. He had two sisters and three brothers, but only one sister came to Canada and she lived in Ontario.

At the time of the Riel rebellion he joined the Territorials in Ontario and came west as far as Winnipeg, but the trouble had been settled so he returned to Ontario. However, his trip west had given him a glimpse of the opportunities offered in the west and so he came to Alberta. He first worked at a ranch near Cochrane and then a winter in a lumber camp near Golden B.C. and accompanied by Mr. Wm Champ and Mr. Joe Doan he came to this district in 1890. He filed on a homestead in the Antler Hill district.

In the fall of 1891 he married Miss Mary Jane Niblock who had come out to be with her brothers Robert & William in the spring of 1891. Miss Niblock had come to Innisfail on the first train to run north from Calgary. She was born in Neury, Co Down, Ireland on Feb. 1, 1865. Their first home of logs was built near the road connecting Pine Lake with the Edmonton-Calgary trail. Bands of Indians going to and from Pine Lake for hunting and fishing often passed by. It was later that a frame house was built. This house was moved after the rainy seasons returned about 1900 to a higher location. The move was made with 4 teams of horses. Mr. Bush was in charge and assisted by Mr. S. Springgay and Mr. J. Tillier.

Mr. & Mrs. McAllister had a family of 9. — 4 sons and 5 daughters: Their eldest child Sarah (Sadie) born in 1892 married Charles Newton in 1910. They had 5 daughters and 4 sons. Robert Alexander was born in 1893 and married Ethel Parcels in 1918. John William was born in 1895, married Winnifred Kennings in 1923. He enlisted in 1915 with the 63 Battalion and went overseas in 1916. He was with the 16 Can. Scottish and served in France. He was a member of the Pipe Band and went into Germany in the fall of 1918, with the occupation troops. He returned to the farm in Antler Hill in May 1919. Mary was born October 1897 and married Milford Parcels in 1919. Arthur was born in January 1898 and joined the 187 Battalion in 1916 and went overseas. He was wounded in Aug. 1917 and died, being buried in the Lapugnoy Military Cemetery. Annie was born in Jan of 1900 and married in 1923 to Ivan Parcels who farms in the Horn Hill District. Edward Ephriam was born Aug 1901 and married in 1930 to Phyllis Fear and still lives on the original homestead. Esther was born in 1903 and married in 1929 Evan Richards of the Horn Hill district. Agnes Margaret was born in 1905 and married in 1931 Fred Pamen-ter.

Both Mr. & Mrs. McAllister were members of the Presbyterian church. Mr. McAllister served as an elder in the Chalmers Presbyterian church in

Penhold. He was a member of the Orange Lodge for over 75 yrs. (having joined in Ireland in 1872). He was made a life member. He was a director of the first Innisfail creamery and also director of the first Agricultural Society in Innisfail and was active in organizing the early agricultural fairs.

The first Antler Hill school was built in 1900 on land donated by Mr. McAllister. He served as trustee on the board for several terms.

Four grandsons served with the Canadian forces in W.W.11: Arthur Newton, Earl McAllister, Leslie Parcels, Reginald Newton. They were fortunate in all returning safely after the war.

Mrs. McAllister passed away at home on Feb. 25, 1945 and Mr. McAllister on Sept 5, 1948 at the home of their daughter Mrs. Ivan Parcels. They rest in the family plot in the Innisfail Cemetery.

THE McARTHUR STORY by George & Orval McArthur

William Gunby McArthur came to homestead in the Innisfail district in 1890. He walked from Calgary, looked around until he found a piece of land that suited him, then walked back to Calgary to file on it and buy a team of oxen. He returned to his homestead, two miles east and two miles south of Innisfail. In time, he erected a log cabin with a sod roof. When it started to thaw in the spring, they had to hang the bedding and clothing out on the clothesline as the roof leaked so badly.

W.G. McArthur married Lillian McLeod, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John McLeod who homesteaded in 1891, having come from Ontario. They later moved to Innisfail where W.G. McArthur bought out the Dobson Furniture and Undertaking business. He carried on in this business until his passing in 1924. (Son, Roy, carried on until Mrs. McArthur sold the business to Del Sheffield in 1926).

William G. and Lillian McArthur had five sons and one daughter: Cecil who attended Aberdeen school; served with the forces in World War 1 and was killed in 1917: Euphemia (dec), married George Walton (See Walton story): Roy who married Mary, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Mike Walton. He is deceased and Mary resides in Wetaskiwin: Orval who was in the Royal Flying Corps in W.W.1, married Alice Brown of Trochu and now resides in Huxley: Harold (dec) was in World War 11, married Helen Gleason: and John who died in infancy. Mrs. Lillian McArthur passed away in 1905 and is interred in the Innisfail Cemetery.

In 1908, W.G. McArthur married the former Maria Kate Bamsey. Of this union there were five sons and one daughter: Thomas (dec), named for his grandfather Bamsey. He married Helen Jenkins: Ethel, who resides in Calgary: George, who married Vivian Pendergast and they reside in Calgary: Harmon (dec) married Lucille Page and later Agnes Wordie: Horace, who married Margaret Phemster of Scotland. They reside in Calgary: Bob and his wife Ruby live in England.

I, Orval, recall hearing Dad tell the following story. It was when he filed on his homestead in



William Gunby McArthur and son Cecil at Furniture & Undertaking business, taken in 1913.

Calgary that he met a Scotsman, Gibson Munro. They were filing on land one mile apart. The registrar said if they were going to be neighbors, they might as well get acquainted now. They threw in together. They got a yoke of oxen, a red river cart, sack of flour, some powder for an old muzzle loader, caps and the necessary things you would need to homestead. It took about four or five days to reach their homesteads and during that time Dad decided to cook up a rabbit stew. He told his new-found friend to go shoot some rabbits. Mr. Munro returned with no rabbit, saying, he didn't have the heart to kill them as when he was preparing his gun, the rabbits were sniffing at the end of his gun. The end of the story was that Dad had to go get the rabbits himself.

George remembers the story that in the early days Mr. Ed Dodd broke his leg and Mr. McArthur, the undertaker, set it!

W.G. McArthur was a great community man being Justice of the Peace, Chairman of the School Board, Secretary of the Innisfail Agricultural Society, an elder of the Presbyterian Church, a member of the Town Council, a member of the Masonic Lodge the Odd Fellows, and the Modern Woodsman. He was one of the first ones in the Innisfail area to have silver lace Wyandotte chickens.

The whole family attended school in Innisfail. When we were small, we used to play hide-and-seek with the other children around. The young McArthurs would always hide the best, as they hid in the hearse which was kept in the driving shed. The other children were always afraid to look in there for them.

Early businessmen I (Orval) knew well were W.C. Patterson, J.F. Fumerton, Geo. E. Thorne (who ran the pool room). I remember Mr. Thorne smoking continually and when he about ran out of cigarettes he put a toothpick in and kept on smoking. G.W. West was always a good friend of the boys and had a different way about him.

There were Hallow'een Pranks played long ago. One being the taking apart of a wagon and then assembling it on top of the Anglican Church.

I, Orval, had my hand at many different occupations, but mainly have been a farmer in the Huxley district since 1925. I have four daughters and one son and last count, twenty-four grandchildren.

I, George, worked for many years for Innisfail Motors and at this time married Vivian Pendergast. In 1941, we moved to Vancouver and I worked in "war work". We returned to Calgary in 1951 where I became a plant superintendent for Conforce Products Ltd. until poor health caused an early retirement. My wife and I have two children, Arnold and Ora and have six grandchildren. We live in Calgary.

JOSEPH MCBRIDE FAMILY by Jerry McBride

Joseph McBride was born in Belfast Ireland in 1876. He married Sarah Leighburn in Belfast in 1906. He came to Manitoba in 1903 returning to Ireland in 1904.

He came to Innisfail in 1912 with his wife and two sons, Jim and Joe. He lived at "The Spruces" and that was where Jack McBride was born in 1913. He had been a milk man in Ireland but became a farmer here. He often laughed about having to make a trip to Calgary with one horse and one ox hitched together.

Children born to Mr. & Mrs. Joseph McBride; were: Jim Alexandra McBride; Joseph McBride, Jack McBride who married Dorothy Ferguson; Robert McBride of Huxley; Pearl Elizabeth Margaret (Mrs. Sid Winslow) who resides in Vancouver; Art McAllister McBride who married Ruby Piesse; Harold McBride; Cyril McBride who married Verona Beefus; Jerry McBride who married Stella Frederick; Sylvester McKee McBride and Earl Clifford McBride who married Isabell McLeod.

The worst tragedy to happen to the family was when Mrs. McBride became ill in February and all the roads were drifted and closed off. She had to be taken to Red Deer by sleigh with a mattress in the bottom of the box. She died on the operating table leaving her husband with eleven small children to care for.

Mr. McBride farmed and milked a lot of cows. He raised good horses and pigs. The children attended Westholm, Grahamston and Aberdeen schools. Their first neighbors were Bill Niblock (an uncle) and George Campbell.

Mr. McBride used to tell of the bad winter of 1919 when he was sitting in the doorway of his house with Jack on his knee. Lightning struck a saw that was hanging on the wall by the door and struck Mr. McBride. It didn't hurt the child and Mr. McBride was weak and dazed for several days after the occurrence.

One of the early people here that he spoke of the most was Phil Holden. He told how Phil used to often walk down to McBrides for an evening or a Sunday. One evening he came in smelling violently of a skunk. Mr. McBride asked Phil what had happened and Phil replied "Well, sir, I tell you, Joe and I was walking along the road and that impudent beast was on the Kings' Highway and refused to get off, so I walked right up to him and kicked him in the behind

and told him to 'Get off the Kings' Highway you varmint' and so a smelly evening was had by all!

Mrs. McBride passed away, February 13, 1927 and is interred at the Innisfail Cemetery. Mr. McBride passed away on September 1, 1964 and is laid to rest by his wife.

JOHN ANDREW McCRAW told by daughters Elsie, Myrtle and Cora

John A. McCaw was born in Indiana, U.S.A. on Oct. 10, 1856. Harriet Lydia Gordon was born in Indiana on Feb. 16, 1864. John and Harriet met in, and were married at Chetopa, Kansas, where their parents had moved, in 1883.

John's work was running a pack train of mules and horses with his brother Bruce. They packed trade-goods between Colorado and Mexico. Their work was dangerous and they worried about Harriet staying alone in Cripple Creek, a wild mining town, while they were on the trail; so they decided to return to Kansas where their parents still lived. In 1906, John McCaw visited the Parklands of Alberta. Recognizing the opportunities for his family in a new, unimproved land he purchased a farm 9 miles east of Innisfail in the Grahamston district. By August of that year he had sold his possessions in Kansas, packed what he meant to keep, and journeyed with his family by boxcar to the little depot at Innisfail. Their oldest son, Clyde, remained behind to complete some business, and joined the others the following year.

Thus the McCaw family, with the help of neighbor, John May, moved their one team 'Bob & Socks', a saddle pony 'Dolly', the huge grand piano, and other treasures to the new home. Since the six room log house was minus doors and windows, Mr. & Mrs. May invited the women to stay at their place until the log house could be finished. Arrangements were made with the closest neighbor, Simon Fead, to pasture, and later buy twelve head of cattle, which was the start of a fast growing herd. The cows furnished milk products; some cream was sold. Hunting and fishing, mostly done by the youngest son Louis, supplied meat for the table. Louis also trapped and hunted for furs, of which he sold hundreds. Muskrat, coyote, lynx, and weasel were the most plentiful. Wild ducks and geese, as well as their tame ones, furnished not only meat, but feathers for pillows, feather beds, and quilts. Early cash also came from cordwood cut and delivered 9 miles by bob-sled to Innisfail. The boys operated a thresher and bailer for themselves and surrounding communities. The three brothers played the music for the Friday night's dance; after a week's work they hurried home and mother had washtub baths ready for them.

The girls had the home chores done and were waiting in their hemstitched flour sack lingerie and dresses Mother made. All, including Bob Gordon and others, would quietly get into the sleigh or democrat and wait for Carroll and Louis to hitch the driving team. Carroll, the driver, would be in the seat holding the reins taut when Louis hooked that last tug, then jumped for the endgate as the group whiz-



The three McCaw brothers with their furs, taken around 1912.

zed by — 'Jip and Sis' didn't fool around. The Grahamston school was the centre of recreation in the district. Every other weekend, alternating with Horseshoe Lake district, a picnic, including pot luck lunches, baseball or football games, racing, jumping and every competitive game they could think of, was played. The McCaw's participated in everything. Clyde was one of the organizers, Carroll was an athlete and boxer; Louis took prizes everywhere for strength and endurance; John Cox, who had married Ethel in 1906, furnished the laughs.

Recollections of storms, tragic or humorous events, are many. One storm stands out above the rest. Ernie Bothamley, wife Lottie, son Orvil, Ernie's brother Charlie, and Cora McCaw, went fishing on the Red Deer River west of Innisfail. While eating lunch, we watched a small harmless looking cloud grow into a threatening one almost directly overhead. Picnic leftovers and fishing gear were quickly packed and we scrambled into Ernie's Ford, speeding home at the rate of 10 to 20 miles per hour over the wagon roads. By now it was hailing. The wind increased as we passed through Innisfail hurrying south toward the Bothamley ranch. Almost to the Oxtoby home we caught up to Clarence Carr in a wagon with a four horse team, returning from delivering grain to the elevator. Clarence, leaning forward with coat flying behind, was repeatedly popping his long whip over the heads of the lead team. The horses were running at breakneck speed. A few hail stones fell and the wind was gusty and angry. Our excitement increased as Clarence, spying a downed section of fence, swerved his horses and drove through the opening and across the open field toward his barn, where his brother stood with open center doors so Clarence could drive his unhooked teams under the big roof for shelter from the hail. Telephone lines, which were mostly fence lines at that time, with 10 to 20 on a line, were dead. When we got home we first noticed the beautiful big trees in our yard were stripped of leaves. They died and later were removed. Roofs were perforated, windows broken, livestock bruised; a colt was killed, also a 200 lb. sow, some pigs and geese. Two days after the storm, there were still drifts of hail — some of the stones had been as big as hen's

eggs. The McCaw crop of oats and spring wheat, half grown, were like freshly ploughed fields. The boys raked some green straw for feed. With no extra seeding, the crop re-grew and made a very late harvest.

Elsie, Myrtle, and Cora attended the Grahamston school, and Cora, the Innisfail High. Our teachers were the best — Maggie Burns, Lillian Evans, Miss Rooney, Leone and Helen MacDiarmid. Mr. Main was an efficient instructor teaching 32 students in the High School in Innisfail — three grades in one small room. We still often recite prose and poems from the old primer and other school books used.

Children:

Clyde Born June 1884 m. Anna Williamson; 4 children

Ethel Born April 1886 m. John Cox; 5 children
Carroll Born May 1888 m. Eva Paul m. 2 Bea Jones one daughter

Louis & Lottie Born May 1890 Louis m. Lula Cummins; 3 children

Lottie m. Ernie Bothamley; 7 children

Elsie Born Mar. 1893 m. Bert Rehard; 3 children
Myrtle Born Jan 1896 m. Leland Lewis 2 m. O. Christensen one son

Cora Born Jan. 1902 m. Henry Capaul; 2 sons

W. J. McCLURE by Alice (McClure) McComb

William James McClure was born in Guelph Co., Ontario in 1854. He married Sarah Ann Finlay, a neighbor, in 1880, and moved to Halton Co. in 1886. Our neighbors in Ontario, the Dodds (school-mates Maggie, Jennie and Ernest), went to Poplar Grove in 1889 and wrote 'how wonderful this new country was' so my father decided to come too. He came out a year ahead of his family in April 1892, and built a frame house while working for Gibson Munro. In 1893 he returned to Ontario to bring his family — his wife, two daughters and one son — to Innisfail. We used a settlers' car with a stove on which the settlers cooked their meals. We brought our own bedding and food, spread a mattress on the wooden seats, which made into a bed. We brought two horses, three cows and a plow and harrow along with our household furniture. In the same car were neighbors, the William Centers with Bristol and Alma; they homesteaded east of Poplar Grove; we were farther north a little. The trip took eight days. The coach was in front of the train and the stock cars behind. The train had to stop every day to water the stock. Once the engine and part of the train came uncoupled and left us. We were going down a grade when the engineer started to back up to the car and as we were going fast too, we came together with a crash. Father was leaning over the back of a seat and cracked a rib, but no one else was hurt. In Ontario, we had had a ten acre fruit farm — mostly apples — from early Astrakans, Northern Spy, Pound Sweets, Russets, to Snow Apples; there were also black currants which we children didn't like picking.

Father filed on what was supposed to be the last homestead in the Niobe district (now owned by

Wagers). The first night in the farmhouse, a band of coyotes came and got a chicken and set up a howl; we children hid in our beds. Dad farmed, and Mother helped milk the three cows and made butter to trade for groceries — no cash in those days; everything was traded; there just wasn't any money — we could hardly buy a 2c stamp to mail a letter. Once when the cows were dry we had no butter for three months. Mother made a dip from flour, water and spices to use in place of butter.

The Dea sisters, Jane and Annie, lived on the next farm to us; McGormans came later. Mr. & Mrs. Gibson Munro were near too — Gibson had been manager of a sugar plantation in South America before coming here. The Geary's lived north of us and their son Will was a druggist in Innisfail for years. I remember Mr. & Mrs. Constantine, Jean and Bliss, who kept a boarding house in town; also Mr. & Mrs. Good, Robert and Jennie (Mrs. R. Cornett). We attended school in Innisfail. We lived 2-1/2 miles NE at the foot of Antler Hill; the railway crossed our land, and we walked the tracks to school. Some of our school-mates were the Browns, Vartys, Wynns, Gerty Curry, Jenny Dodd, Elmer Brown. We attended the Presbyterian Church. I had my turn at the organ when they were short an organist. We had church picnics and tea parties for recreation — Mr. McQueen from Edmonton would come and preach.

I remember Mr. Curry, the storekeeper. One day a man wanted a pair of gloves. He thought the price was too high and mentioned a store that sold them cheaper. Said Mr. Curry, "That's the place to get them.", as he swept the gloves into the drawer again.

William and Sarah McClure had three children:

Myrtle — married Dr. Wesley Hagey, dentist in Innisfail, and went to live in Red Deer and later to Ontario where their children still live. Myrtle died in 1956 at Kitchener, Ontario. Her son Harold was a Major in the Army during WWII.

Alice — married Lorne McComb in 1911 and went to homestead near Huxley, Alberta. Her oldest boy Alan, was in the Air Force for three years as an air gunner. He is now retired in Didsbury. Her youngest boy, Lorne, went to his grandparents in Michigan and there joined the US army for three years. He is now in Seattle. Her husband, Lorne McComb, died in 1930. Alice is living at RR4, Red Deer.

Gray — married Jane Forrester from Little Red Deer and moved to Nanaimo, B.C. William McClure sold his homestead to Albert McGorman and moved with them. Gray bought a 500 acre bush farm, where his son still farms. Gray died in 1954 at Nanaimo. William J. McClure died in 1935 at Nanaimo, predeceased by his wife Sarah at Bassano in 1914.

THE McDERMOTTS by Mrs. Dorothy Tetley

The McDermotts, an Irish family, whose forebearers had come to Canada in the early 1800's came out to the North West Territories from Beeton, Ontario. The first to arrive in the Innisfail District in 1898, were Perry, his wife Mary and small daughter Doreen.

Mary's family, the Irwins, had arrived before this. Some of them were Mrs. Charlie Gray (Clara), Mrs. Will Beatty (Emma) and Bill Irwin all old-timers of Innisfail.

Later that year, Perry and his Uncle, W.R. Baycroft, a teacher who had come west in 1893, and whose family came out to Calgary in 1894, took up adjoining homesteads about five miles south of Innisfail.

In April, 1900 Perry's mother, Mrs. Mary Jane McDermott, a widow and his brother Hiram, arrived in Innisfail. They stayed with Perry for a short while, helping him "on the ranch". Mrs. Baycroft and Mrs. McDermott were sisters.

Hiram, who was a fully apprenticed watch-maker and jeweller, soon found lots of work to do in Innisfail. For a month he had space in another man's shop. Then he was able to get a small semi-detached shop with living rooms at the back for five dollars a month! He and his mother moved in there, as their furniture had arrived from Ontario.

From the first, they liked Innisfail and got along very well.



Back row: Hiram McDermott, Anna McDermott, Brit Wright. Front row: Mrs. M. J. McDermott, Mrs. W. R. Baycroft, and Mrs. Jo Wright (three sisters) taken in Innisfail about 1910.

Later in the year, Zilpha, another member of the family, arrived. She had spent a year in Saskatoon with friends and had had a wonderful time there. She was a teacher who had taught for ten years in the Beeton school, but decided she needed a change of occupation, so went to work in the Post office taking the place of Louise Malcolm who left to marry Robert Milligan of Pine Lake. Norman Stiles was Post Master then and Zilpha enjoyed working for him and getting to know all the people for miles around who of course, came to pick up their mail.

About a year later, Anna, the last member of the family arrived. She was a milliner and set up shop in the other half of the shop Hiram had. Hiram's was the first jeweller's shop in Innisfail and Anna's the first millinery shop. They both did well from the start.

Hiram (or Mac as he was called) was the best known of the McDermotts as he spent the rest of his life in Innisfail, constantly dealing with the public. There was one interlude, when he spent four years in the army during the First World War.

In 1907, he (Hiram) married Elizabeth Sinclair, a widow with one son, Jack. Their home was on Central Avenue. Mrs. McDermott was a sister of Mrs. Gallagher, wife of a well known conductor on the C. & E. line for years. She was very active in the works of the Presbyterian Church, the I.O.D.E. and the Eastern Star Lodge.

Hiram was very interested in all sports. He and Perry had both been keen lacrosse players in their youth and at first were disappointed that the game was not played in the west. All activities for the good of the town had his full support. He served on Council and had many friends. Amongst the early ones was W.R. Wilson manager of the Union Bank, who was influential in starting the Masonic Lodge in Innisfail. Hiram was one of the charter members. He enjoyed gardening and his home and garden were one of the early beauty spots of Innisfail.

Another of his interests were antiques of all sorts and he did quite a lot of dealing in them. He had a very valuable coin collection. He was known to be exceptionally good in his trade. He was of a very cheerful, happy disposition, but on occasion could get his "Irish" up. Though he had no children, but his step-son, Jack Sinclair, he was very popular with the young people.

Zilpha McDermott married Harry Cooke, son of the early pioneers Ralph and Annie Cooke. (See Cooke Story.) Zilpha was a very active worker for St. Mark's Church was president of the W.A. for years, and a keen member of I.O.D.E. Some of her special friends were Mrs. S. Twissell, Mrs. George Bryan, Mrs. T. Rawlinson and Mrs. W. Jenson. The last years of her life were spent partly in Innisfail in her suite above her shop where Hiram latterly had his jewellery store. During the winter months she was with her daughter, Dorothy Tetley and family, in Red Deer; She died in Red Deer in January 1957 after a brief illness and was buried in the Innisfail Cemetery.

Anna McDermott was a very successful milliner and had a good shop at different times in Innisfail, also in Medicine Hat and Edmonton. Clara Smith, daughter of Bob Smith, worked as her assistant milliner for several years. When she moved to Edmonton she had a shop across from the Corona Hotel. She married Harry J. Munton while in Edmonton. Shortly after that, they left there and were for a short time in Innisfail then moved to Toronto where they ended their days.

Mrs. Mary McDermott, their mother, lived with Anna and made a home for the two of them until Anna married. After that she lived most of the time with Zilpha Cooke and family. She lived to be ninety-three years old, dying in 1935 and is buried in Innisfail.

THE McELROY STORY by Mrs. Florence McElroy

Lee McElroy, his wife, Florence, children, Helen, Charles and Russell, and his father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. Charles McElroy, arrived in Innisfail in 1919. They came from Saskatchewan where they had lived for several years.

They bought the George Blake farm and went into mixed farming. It was quite an experience for me, (Lee's wife), living so far from town with a very young family. We hadn't been here long, when one night Oliver Langevin came to the door wanting Lee to go for a practical nurse for his wife. Lee had a fancy driving team and cutter and so he started out, not knowing the country and having great difficulties getting through the drifting snow. He eventually got the women for Oliver, but some days later Mrs. Langevin died.

Lee would leave early in the morning to haul grain to Innisfail — using horses and sleighs in the winter. Some of the neighbors were the Bakers, Goldstroms, Gills, Songhursts and Conners.

When we arrived we had three children: Helen Lorene — born Aug. 29, 1914: Charles Ryan (Bud)



Charles and Ellen McElroy (Lee McElroy's parents).

— born Dec. 2, 1915: and Russell — born April 30, 1917 (dec. 1972). Two more children were born here: Robert Lee — born Sept. 23, 1919: and William Howard — born June 23, 1921. The children started school at Hill End and later attended the Innisfail school.

We left Alberta in 1929 and went to North Dakota, returning to Innisfail in 1931 when Lee started the first Dry Cleaning business in Innisfail. This business was sold to Norman Anderson in the late 40's. We then went into the Motel-Hotel business. We had only retired a year and one-half when Lee passed away (1965). I now reside at Surrey, B.C.

Bud, Russ and Bob all served in the armed forces in W.W.II and returned to Innisfail at the end of the war. Helen (Bun) (Mrs. J. O'Shea) resides at Cash Creek, Alta: Charles (Bud) is a C.P.R. conductor at



Lee and Florence McElroy

Cranbrook: Robert is with the Gas Company at Surrey and William (Bill) is with the C.P.R. at Gold River, B.C.

Lee and I raised our granddaughter, Anita Dodd. She attended school in Innisfail. She and her family reside at Gibson, B.C.

Although we have lived other places for several years my family and I regard Innisfail as our true home and have fond memories of the time we did spend there.

Charles McElroy Sr. passed away in 1938, his wife Cora, in 1927.

WHY EDWARDS LEFT INNISFAIL

Taken from The Calgary Herald, page 50, Saturday, July 8, 1950.

Innisfail had one major fault, according to Bob Edwards, famed editor of the Calgary Eye-Opener, who was established in Innisfail about the turn of the century. when he published the Innisfail Free Lance for a brief time.

Bob Edwards once explained why he left. It seemed the neighbors on his left cut their wood short and the neighbors on his right cut their wood long. Neither size fitted the Edwards stove. Apparently faced with the horrible prospect of cutting his own wood, Bob Edwards decided to move on.

HECTOR MCFADYEN FAMILY by Walter A. McFadyen

Hector McFadyen, my father was born in Bruce County, Ontario in 1871. He came to Innisfail in 1905 to visit John A. Simpson whom he had known in Ontario. Father had stayed at Simpsons in Ontario and went to school there.

From Sellmouth, Manitoba he came by train to Innisfail. My mother and two sisters and myself came a

short time later. In Manitoba father had homesteaded farmed and did carpentry. After getting settled in Innisfail he opened a cabinet shop and a chopping mill where the farmers would bring in grain to be chopped for feed. Many had wheat ground for flour. He then operated the first grain elevator in Innisfail. This was built in 1912. Before this, most grain was handled by Mr. Kitley who had a warehouse the west side of the C.P.R. tracks. This was moved and a grain elevator now stands in its place.

When the elevator was being built, one Sunday some boys were climbing around the top of the elevator and Virgil Biggs fell into one of the bins. There was a lot of scrap ends of the plank in the bottom of the bin. Inspection holes had not been cut into the bins at that time and fortunately he was taken out with no more than a few scratches. The loose end of a plank had broken his fall.

Most of the people in the early days had a garden, a cow and chickens. The best place to get wild strawberries was at the old race track which was just west of the cemetery. The town was small and everyone was a neighbor.

My mother was one who came by covered wagon to Manitoba from Ontario where she was born in 1873. It was at Shellmouth, Manitoba where my parents were married. They had three children: Elizabeth (Bessie) born at Shellmouth in 1896. She married Clarence E. Johnston and resides at Hayden Lake, Idaho. I (Walter) was born in 1900 at Saltcoats, Saskatchewan. I married Cela Birnel and we live at Moscow, Idaho. Ellen was born in 1903 at Saltcoats, Saskatchewan and she married Otta Knecht and they reside in Olds.

When I first started school it was held in a frame building on East Main Street (about where the Old Legion bldg. was). In the spring, water would surround the building, so the teacher would send two boys on a raft to get wood for the stove to a shed at the back of the building. Most days, some boy would be sent home to change clothes, as he was pushed off the raft. Poor teacher she must have had a heart of gold, to put up with the little bunch of devils. Then, the brick school was built. The first principal was a Scotchman, Mr. Boyd, who was very strict, but very fair. If there was a fight in the yard or a snow ball thrown through his window, he would say "That boy — stand in the lobby". It seemed he saw everything that went on in the playground. About the same time Miss Nan Shearer (Mrs. H. Hodge) came from Scotland to teach at Innisfail. What a blessing for the children of the town. In my opinion, she was the great lady of education. In remembering some of the boys that I went to school with - there were Jack Rogers, Aubrey MacMillan, Reg Geary, Gordon McInroy, Harold Moore, Jack Sinclair and Bud McCallum whom I will never forget. He lived two doors west of us. On Saturday we decided to go duck hunting on Moores' slough with a .22 rifle he had. We were 8 years old. But I was the duck that got shot in the leg. The bullet hit the shin bone and eventually I was in hospital and they thought they should amputate the

leg. But thanks to Dr. Allen he saved my leg. Innisfail was very fortunate in those early days to have doctors like Dr. George, Dr. Allen, Dr. Wagner and Dr. Turner.

When I was going to school, I started working for Andy Lennox in the tin shop on Saturdays and after school. He was one of the best mechanics I have ever known. We did plumbing, sheet metal, and electric wiring. He being a perfectionist, I learned my trades well. I feel I was indeed fortunate to have worked under a man of his talent.



Mr. and Mrs. Hector McFadyen and children Bessie, Ellen and Walter.

I enlisted in the 78th C.F.A. in Calgary, December 1917. I transferred to the 4th C.F.A., 1st Division in March 1918 in France. We were at the second Battle of Mons when Armistice was signed. My Battery was the first to arrive in Cologne, Germany and we were stationed there until the Army of Occupation arrived in late January of 1919. In the summer of 1919 the Innisfail branch of the Canadian Legion was formed. We held our meetings over the old fire station. Some of the first members were: Max Edgar, Don Manuel, William Wade, Wm. Morrison, Roy McArthur, Maurice Jensen, Den Bryan, Ralph Moore and a few more. Cecil McArthur was the first boy from Innisfail killed in W.W.I

When I returned from the army, I went back to work for Andy Lennox until the fall of 1922. My feet got itchy and I decided to go to the U.S.A. to see my sister Bess. G.W. Wests' oldest son, Jack was in

Spokane in the office supply business, so I went to work for him as a salesman. It was a good experience, if I didn't make much money. I did get to know most of the businessmen in Spokane and learnt a lot in a couple of years. I met Charlie Allie, who had been a mechanic for Dick Kremer in Innisfail and it was through him I met my wife Cela. Her uncle, John Arme had run the store at Raven about 1912.

In 1924 another Canadian and I started building houses in Spokane. We built 18 houses when the depression hit and we went broke. I then started working back at my trade. In 1936 we came to Moscow to do some furnace jobs. There was a lot of work going on here, both colleges here and at Pullman, Wash. I have been here ever since.

On Sunday Dec. 7th, 1941, the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor and on the morning of the 8th of December I told the Employment Office I would go any place in the world where the U.S.A. needed skilled labor. I signed on with Morris & Knutson, who were building airports in the South Pacific. On Dec. 14th I was on my way to Hawaii where I spent one year. We were building an airport on 2700 acres of Coral. Funny things will always come up under any conditions and there were a lot of air raid alarms the first few months. We were working on a large latrine about 80 feet long, and some Japanese boys were working on the roof one morning. I was running pipe inside when the air raid alarm sounded. These boys came off the roof to go to the air raid shelter which was at one end of the building. Three of the boys came off the roof and instead of going to the shelter, they ran all the way through the building, yelling "Take Cover, take cover, those God Dam Japs are Coming." Well, it hit me funny and if there had been an attack, I don't think I could have run, I was laughing so hard. Most of the Japanese boys signed on with Hawaii's Own, the most decorated Battalion in the U.S.A. army.

When I returned to Moscow in 1943, I started my own Plumbing and Heating business, which I operated until 1957 when I sold out. I had an apartment house which kept me busy until 1967 when I retired.

I always think of Innisfail as my home town, even if I have not lived there for over 50 years. The man who wrote the song "Dear Hearts and Gentle People" must have felt like I do about his Home Town.

JOHN HENRY McGEE by Bruce McGee

John (Jack) McGee, my father, was born July 10, 1896 at Enniskillian, Ireland, where he took his schooling. He came to Canada in 1920 and arrived at Innisfail's Little Red Deer district to work for Nat Wright in 1921. He married Edith Wright on June 3, 1924.

They moved to Vancouver, and then came back to Alberta to reside in the Sylvan Lake area; but in a few years settled again in the Little Red Deer area. A few of their neighbors were Jack Scarletts, D. Scotts, Manuels, Briggs, Newshams; Brose Vreeland was a close friend.

Children were: Richard Nathaniel, born May 13, 1925; Bernice Edith, born Oct. 23, 1927; Bruce William, born in 1929; and Phyllis Joan, born in 1942. All the family took their schooling at the Little Red Deer school with the exception of Phyllis who took some in Innisfail.

Richard and Bernice were in the armed forces in WWII. after returning from the navy, Richard married Beatrice Calvert of Huxley. They now reside at Robson, B.C. and have two children, Susan and Corrine. Bernice married Murray Duncan of Vancouver. They reside at Chesterville, Ontario. Bruce is married to Mary Morris of Innisfail. They have one son, Kenneth Bruce, who resides in the Little Red Deer district across the road from the homestead of his grandfather, Nat Wright, on land that is part of the original land. Phyllis is married to Frank Gauthier of Huxley. They have two children, Bonnie and Murray.

Edith McGee passed away in July 23, 1963. Jack is still living and resides at Nipawin, Sask. He remembers best from early Innisfail Wong Wo's restaurant, Bill Daines' Blacksmith, Balstead's tire repair, and station agent Fred Bye.

THE MCGILLIVRAY STORY by Lucille West & Charles McGillivray

Our Dad, William Robert McGillivray, was the youngest son of Thomas and Henrietta McGillivray. He was born in Smith Falls, Ontario on May 23, 1872.

Dad left Ontario at a very early age for North Dakota. He homesteaded, when he was old enough, at Russell, N.D. It was here he met our Mother, E. Pearl McElroy. She was the only daughter of Charles and Cora Ellen McElroy. She was born September 25, 1882. She was born at Lamore, N.D. They were married in 1902. They had two children: Lucille (born at Grandville, N.D., Feb. 7, 1904) and Charles (born at Russell N.D., April 24, 1910).

It was in 1910 that Dad went to Swift Current, Saskatchewan and filed on land. He farmed both in North Dakota and Saskatchewan for a few years. He then sold the farm in N.D. and remained in Saskat-

chewan until 1920 when they moved to Innisfail. They first rented land, then bought land in the Hill End district. It was here that Dad, Mother and Charlie farmed for several years.

Charlie married Doris Faught in 1931. She taught at the Hill End School. They have one son: William Robert (born March 1936). Bill attended school at Hill End, Olds Agricultural School and later got his L.U.A.T.C. He married Elaine Brand and they have two children Glenda and Kelvin. At present Bill is with Co-op insurance in Innisfail.

Lucille obtained her nursing degree at the Calgary General Hospital and came to Innisfail to nurse. She married Frank O. West and worked with her husband in their store in Innisfail until its' closing. They have two daughters: Donna Chadwick, born in 1928, and she has one daughter Cindy. Ora was born in 1932 and is Mrs. Gordon Dawson) residing at Seattle. Ora and Gordon have one son Gregg West Dawson. Both daughters attended school in Innisfail. Donna attended finishing school in Los Angeles and Ora graduated from the University of Idaho with Bsc in Home Economics.

Our mother and Dad carried on a mixed farming operation until their passing in 1942. Charlie and Doris farmed the home place for some time then sold the land and Charlie became a grain buyer for fifteen years. He is now in Insurance and Real Estate residing in Olds. Doris passed away in 1971 and Charlie remarried Inez Stevenson.

JAMES MCGORMAN by Ethel McGorman

A relative had been in the west for his health and his report on the good black loam soil, free from stones, the clear dry air, was intriguing. So in 1905, James McGorman sold his farm at Hopewell Hill, N.B., packed furniture, machinery and equipment in the railroad car of 'settler's effects' and boarded a train for Innisfail with his son and daughters Frances and Hattie.

Mr. McGorman bought a farm a mile north of Innisfail on the Old Edmonton Trail from Mr. Border. He and his son Albert farmed together until 1913 when Albert bought the McClure place. In 1918 James sold his farm. Mr. McGorman and Hattie went back to N.B. where they sold their lumber land, and returning to Alberta, bought a quarter a mile south of Penhold from the Field Bros., Edwin and Walter.

Frances was a good seamstress and found employment sewing by the day for the ladies in Little Red Deer district; later she clerked in the Fumerton General Store, and when they moved their business to Kelowna, B.C. in 1916, she accompanied the family and clerked in the Dry Goods dept. until 1919 when she returned to Alberta to recuperate after a serious illness. In 1921 she married Edwin Field and went to Big Bend district to live on the half section the Field Bros. had bought. Walter died in 1939. Ed and Fran farmed until they retired to Calgary in 1945, accompanied by Hattie. Edwin died in 1961; Hattie and Frances moved into an apartment until 1971; then into the Geo. Boyack Nursing Home. In 1973, Hattie, at the age of 90 is still there, but Frances, age 92, is in



Bill and Pearl McGillivray on their Wedding Day, 1902.



Wedding Bells on Aug. 5, 1914 for Mr. and Mrs. McGorman with Rev. and Mrs. Shortt.

the Cross-Bow Hospital still unable to walk after breaking her hip.

In 1914, Albert married Ethel Wilson, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. John Wilson. They farmed raising Holstein cattle. In 1918 Albert sold to Waldo Johnson and they moved to Kelowna where their son James Wilson (Jim) was born. Later in 1922, their second son Albert Russell (Bert) was born in Calgary. The family moved to Penhold in 1929 to assist Hattie in the care of her father and the farm. James McGorman died in 1935. Albert and Ethel resided on the farm until Albert's death.

Albert had always been active in the Presbyterian Church as an Elder, and the U.F.A. as a Director. He had judged at many of the fairs from the Peace River district to the local Knee Hill Valley. During the 1920's he won many prizes for judging grain and cattle. Ethel McGorman was active as a member of the Women's Institute from 1916, serving as Provincial Director, Treasurer, Vice-President, and President. She represented the Alberta Women's Institute at the Associated Countrywomen of the World at Copenhagen in 1950, and an FWIC representative when the ACW met in Toronto in 1953. When teachers were scarce in 1954, she again taught school at Summit, Buffalo Creek and then Innisfail until 1961.

Jim McGorman enlisted in the RCAF at the beginning of the war and was an Instructor at Exeter, Ont. There he married Mary Lumby. They now live at Stratford, Ont. with four children: Margaret Lynn, Robert, Elizabeth, and Jim, Jr.

Bert McGorman was attending U of A when the war began; he enlisted in 1940 in the Army, became a Lieutenant, and was an Instructor at Gimley. In 1953 he married Selma Pederson of Nelson; they have three children — Donald, Russel and Catherine.

McKAIN FAMILY by Elizabeth McKain

Mr. & Mrs. Jay McKain came from Oklahoma in 1907 to homestead first in the Crooked Creek district and then at Kegisville. Once when Lester and Harry decided to go after a bear that was denned up, their younger brother Raymond, although told to stay home, followed — when his brothers shot the bear, he

got so excited he fell out of the tree. There were five children in the family when they came to Alberta and three more were born at Kegisville. Lester — m. Jeanette Stewart; lived at Kegisville and retired to Innisfail in 1968. Harry — he and his wife lived in Cottonwood and Kegisville; retired to Innisfail; Harry died in 1963. Nellie — Mrs. Lenox resides in Calgary. Raymond — born in Guthrie, Oklahoma Feb. 7, 1901; see story below. Cecil — married; lives on Jay McKain's farm in Kegisville. Myrtle — Mrs. Schular; resides at Camrose. Edith — Mrs. Long; resides at Prince Rupert. Elmer ("Buck") — lives at Black Diamond.



The McKain House



The McKains

Raymond McKain

Elizabeth Wright of Red Deer taught school first at Antler Hill and then at Kegisville where she met Ray McKain. They were married in November 1923 at which time Ray left his farming and started a store in Kegisville. The first store was part of his house and while he hauled grain from Kegisville into Innisfail and flour and supplies from Innisfail to Kegisville and played ball with the Innisfail team of Fleet Kirkham, Mike & Joe Thomson, Dr. Wagner, Lyle McMchon, Jack Delong, Elmer Marks, and others — Mrs. McKain was busy as postmistress, manager, clerk, and part-time teacher. To begin with Raymond used a truck for hauling only in the summer using a team and sleigh in the winter months.

As well as running the Kevisville store from 1923 until 1944, Ray operated a sawmill on the Clearwater and Tay Rivers until 1948. In 1937 he built a store building which was sold to Geo. Oliver when the McKains left the Kevisville district. This is now the building used for Daines' Western Wear in Caroline.

From 1952 until 1960 the McKains farmed in Markerville, then sold the farm and operated a store in Markerville for two years which was sold to Ken and Margaret Rhodes. Raymond retired to Innisfail because of ill health and died Feb. 7, 1964.

Mrs. McKain taught school in Innisfail from 1963 to 1966 and is now retired in Innisfail. The McKains had one daughter, Betty Gledhill, who lives in Calgary. She has three children — Carol, Arlene and Raymond.

JOHN KERR MCKAY FAMILY by Peggy Walton

John Kerr McKay's grandparents were originally from Scotland. They emigrated to Prince Edward Island in 1815 when John Kerr's father (born 1811) was four years old. In 1837 they bought some land in a place called Spring Valley, P.E.I. where they built a house and other buildings. My dad's father, John Kerr McKay, was born in P.E.I. in 1862. When John Kerr was of age, he took over this farm. In 1885 he married Kathern Champion. They had seven children: Olive (Duggan), Art, Janette, Mary (Knight), Lee, Annie (Ayler) and Lois.

Mr. & Mrs. John Kerr McKay came west to Calgary in 1912 where John Kerr worked for the C.P.R. From 1913 to 1915 he and his son Lee operated a silver fox farm at Midnapore. In 1916 they moved to Innisfail where John Kerr served as magistrate and a building contractor. He helped to build many homes and barns around Innisfail. He was active in politics. In later years he had a work shop at home where he built furniture.

On retiring in 1934, they moved to Edmonton where in 1935 they celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. Mrs. McKay passed away in 1936 and J.K. McKay in 1945; both are interred in Edmonton. As of 1973 — Olive is in P.E.I.; Art, Janette, and Lois are deceased; Mary is in Calgary; Lee in Ponoka; and Annie in Edmonton.

Lee McKay

Lee McKay was born in P.E.I. in 1895 and came west to Calgary with his family in 1912. He worked for International Harvester Co. as blockman; in 1913 to 1915 he and his father ran a silver fox farm. He went overseas with the Canadian Engineers until 1919 when he came back to Innisfail and worked as a building contractor with his dad. In 1922 he married Irene Brandt of the Big Bend district. They had four children. From 1924 to 1928 he was Innisfail's town policeman and also drove the team for the Fire Dept. for four years. He trained the last team used by the Fire Dept.; it was purchased from Brose Vreeland. He and Tom Kirkham laid the hardwood floor in the Royal Theatre behind the screen which was built by Ben Schnika. Lee was the steam engineer for the first hard top road (between Ponoka and Red Deer) built in Alberta. Lee McKay belonged to the Oddfellows,

joining with Chas. Griffiths, Pete Grant and Ray Manuel. His wife joined the Rebeccas with Mrs. Bill Watt, Mrs. Pete Grant and Mary McArthur. In 1930 they moved to Okotoks and now reside in Ponoka where in 1972 they celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary.

Art McKay

Art McKay was born in the McKay house on their farm in P.E.I. Oct. 31, 1886 where he was raised and worked with his father. He married Jessie Champion, born Sept. 16, 1893, in 1910. When the first son, Jack, was born he was the fourth generation to live under the same roof. This farm in Spring Valley, P.E.I. is now lived on by my mother's brother, Mr. I. Champion, aged 93, and his two bachelor sons.

In 1915 my parents left the farm in P.E.I. and came to join his family in Calgary. Dad worked there for the International Harvester Co. and in the Ogden Shops for the C.P.R. When they moved to Innisfail in 1917, he worked in the J.T. Rogers Hardware and later for the John Deere Machine Co. There were thirteen children, seven sons and six daughters, and nine are still living. We had our good times and our hardship times — especially during the "dirty thirties" when there were so many mouths to feed and bodies to clothe. Mother was always busy sewing clothes, changing them to pass down to the next one in line. I can remember playing in the back yard sliding down a tractor fender and Irene and I skating at Dodd's lake with Louise Scott, Muriel Latimer, Marjorie Moore.



The Art McKay family: Back row: Hugh, Stewart, Jack, Don, Ira. Front row: Margaret, Thelma, Mr. and Mrs. McKay, Jennie, Winnie, Irene.

The folks moved from Innisfail in 1934 to Edmonton where dad worked as a bookkeeper for the government in the Federal Bldg. On retirement they moved to Vancouver until 1950 when they returned to Edmonton. Mother passed away in June 1951, buried in Edmonton. Dad went back to Vancouver and returned to Alberta in 1970. He passed away in Red Deer in Feb. 1971 and is buried in Innisfail.

Children of Art & Jessie McKay:

Jack — the oldest is living in Edmonton. As a young boy in Innisfail, he worked in the theatre and learned to make pancakes from 'Wong'. He married

Evelyn Hutchins. He worked for the government in the Highway Safety Dept. for many years; he is now retired; 5 children: Gordon, Brian, Kenneth, Gale & Gary (twins).

Stewart — married Marjorie Moore, formerly of Innisfail (daughter of H.B. Moore) and they live in Calgary. He worked for Charles Murphy in Innisfail and moved to Calgary with him to work for Charles' Stock Yards Gas and Oil (now Ranch Gas & Oil); 2 children: Veronica and Muriel.

Hugh — served with the Edmonton 49th Reg. overseas in the second World War; came to Edmonton and married Lillian Fitzaland; he works for the Edmonton Post Office; 2 children: John and Bob.

Irene — m. Charles Sutton; lives in Edmonton; 4 children: Gerald, Harry, Judith, Doreen.

Margaret (Peggy) — m. Thomas Walton of K.H.V.; now lives in Innisfail (see Walton story).

Ira — m. Dixie Jackson; lives in Calgary; he served overseas for the Calgary Highlanders; he is now manager of Calgary Truck Parts; 3 children: Jim, Colin, Richard.

Winnie — m. Keith Porter and lives in Fairbanks, Alaska; 4 children: Bob, Sandra, Linda, Brenda.

Jennie — m. Bill Lankford and lives in Peoria, Illinois; on daughter, Marilyn.

Donald — served in Airforce at Watson Lake and in Eastern Canada; he lives now in Calgary; 3 children: Sydney, Jacqueline, Donni-joe.

ARCHIBALD "ARCHIE" McKECKNIE

I was born in Durham, Ontario Nov. 9, 1880. In Durham, I worked for Adam Robinson who ran a mill. He used to come into the mill and walk straight to the calendar and put an x on a day. That was the day he charged all his sales to. One day he had me crawl down and clean out the two big wheels at the bottom of the shaft. I was coming out when the water pushed the doors in and filled the shaft and shot the ladder up past me. It was after this I knew it was no place for me to work and I came out west. There was a carpenter shop beside the mill where I spent a lot of time and learned some tricks of the building trade.

I drove up to Innisfail from Calgary with a team in 1910 and unloaded my tools, clothes and belongings at a house. The house caught on fire and I had to put the fire out. I worked for 4 or 5 years between Calgary and Innisfail. I built a house for a guy — he wouldn't pay for it, so he gave me his farm. I wanted to go back to contracting in Calgary, but had to look after the farm and was kept busy building in the district and in Calgary. Archie Robart came up with me one time and we slept in my shack at the farm. During the night the town siren started up for a fire and he jumped out of bed and hollered, "The Germans are coming", and hid under the bed.

I tried to sell my farm to go back to Calgary and get into the contracting, but nobody had the money. I built a house for a Frenchman by the name of Forchier who was living in a two-room log house with a sod roof. They had twelve kids, so they needed a big house. His house was 48' x 48' on a stone block foundation and had an addition 24' x 24'. He warned me

that if I wasted any of his lumber I'd have to pay for it. After he saw me and my two helpers put the frame up he knew I wasn't wasteful of the lumber and we got along fine. I had crews on a number of the buildings that were going up in Calgary at that time.

I remember going out to Ewen Simpson's place to build his house with my loaded wagon and cement mixer on top. He wanted me to open up the roof of his barn so he could drive a load of hay into the loft, but I was afraid the wind would blow the barn down. We traded teams in making the deal and I found out his team was very nervous of Sage's dogs; whenever we got near there they wanted to run away. Coming back from Simpson's I got crowded into the ditch with my wagon and spilled paint all over my clothes and bedding.

When we were building the Banner house, we slept in the cow stalls on the floor and every morning before six thirty Mr. Banner would come in hollering at the cows and wake us up. Banner lived on the Cherry Farm at Bill Miller's. We used the Miller boy because he was small enough to get in between the forms, to pass the wires through the holes to us on the outside. When the oldest girl saw him she screamed and his mother came out and wouldn't stand for that and we had to get the kid out of there.

I lived in the hotel a lot of the time with Thomas White and Van Norden. My room number was 39. There was a crippled girl working there and Maggie St. Deny also worked at the hotel. She was there when I cut my thumb off and she still wants to see it when I meet her. When Tommy came home full they used to ask him to be quiet. He would sit on his bed and bounce his heels on the floor for a long time. When the hotel burned down, everyone threw out all their valuables. I told the crippled girl to keep her door shut to keep the smoke out and I would come back to help her out. The hoist at the back of the hotel for lifting trunks up to the rooms wasn't working but we got her out.

I had a lot of people work with me and lots of funny things happened. Gus Aven worked for me and kept his trunk down my basement. The mice got in and chewed up all his papers. His brother Ivan started to work with me on the Bowden Hotel. He couldn't speak English, so I had to order his meals for him when we ate at the cafe. He used to hold a ladder up on the ground and climb up and down without it leaning on anything. One day when we were cutting hay for Joe Murgatroyd he had a runaway with the team on the bundle rack and kept pulling on the reins and yelling "the damned high-wire outfit".

I built Einar Stephensen's house; Burrow's Hardware; Barber shop for Munro (now the Innisfail Confectionery); Ray Dial's house; Bill Wilson's, behind the telephone office; McNeil's (south of Harry Little's) — this house was plastered in the winter. It was cold and I had to stay up moving thirteen stoves around during the night so the plaster didn't freeze; Stan Fox's house and, Crown Lumber; Bill Jackson's; built five for myself, but they were all sold; Mrs.

Calder's; Manuel's; Jack Barclay's house, east of the curling rink; Huckell house; remodelled Jack Metcalf store; and many more houses. Still batching and making my own meals and good meals in my 93rd year. I have a lot of building to do yet.

JIM McLEAN by Mabel Bailey

Father was born in Charlottetown, P.E.I. and came to Innisfail from there about 1900, to homestead in the Aberdeen district. He married Janet Mainwaring and they had three children: Fred and Alex, bachelors still living in Knee Hill Valley; and Mabel who married Walter Bailey. They live in Knee Hill Valley and have one son, Ronald who married Ronnie Daines, lives in Calgary; one daughter, Rhonda.

Jim McLean farmed until he passed away in 1924. His wife Janet died in 1943; both are buried in the Innisfail Cemetery.

SAMUEL McLEAN by Clarence S. McLean

Samuel McLean was born at Guelph, Ontario, October 31, 1844. He married Elizabeth Myers of Sheguindah, Ontario, on June 10, 1885. Mother was born in Philadelphia, Penn. on May 2, 1864.

We lived at Little Current, Ontario on Manitoulin Island where father was a dairy farmer. He delivered milk to a cheese factory in Little Current, of which he had a share with two of his brothers. Father had the milk route, too. He decided to come to the Innisfail area because the newspapers were full of propaganda about Sunny Alberta, the land of sunshine and free land. The Government of Alberta were in a gambling mood then. They would bet 160 acres of land against the settler's \$10 that he could not live on the land for six months out of every year and not starve to death. Sometimes they won, too. Father came from Sudbury to Innisfail by C.P.R. in the spring of 1909, accompanied by my brother, John. After the first of July my mother and myself came out by train. We stayed in Ontario until school was over the end of June as I was still in school in Little Current.

My brother John helped Dad farm a half-section of land in the Oklahoma district, on the west side of the Little Red Deer river — the first farm west of the Oklahoma bridge. They had it rented from Mr. Humbert who had a cement block factory in Innisfail. When he sold the farm to Michiels, we came to Wainwright in April 1912 where father and John both took out homesteads. Father lived on his homestead until 1916.

While we were at Oklahoma, we were hauled out twice and snowed under once. The trading dollar must have been worth about five of our present dollars. My brother hauled wood to Innisfail to sell at \$5 a load. My mother boarded the teachers as long as we were there, and also made butter and sold eggs. Our nearest neighbors were the George Abrahams, Joseph Robinsons, Syllas, Pecknolds, Campbells and Lairds. My teachers were Miss Viola Ptolomy, Miss Ursula Flett, and Miss Gaetz; and schoolmates I remember are: John, Isabel and Cyril Robinson, Charles and Melville Abraham, Julia, Annie, Robert and Frank Syls, Beatrice, Aileen, Gwennie, Harry,

and Cecil Pecknold, Tom, Rachel and Agnes Campbell, David and Mary Laird and Florence and Pearl Davis.

I remember a minister who used to come to school, possibly every other Sunday, during the summer; a Mr. Habbersham — either a Baptist or Methodist. Well, anyway, he drove a team of small ponies and buggy and on one trip he thought his horses needed a drink, so he drove into the river on the south side of the bridge. Unfortunately, he didn't know there was a deep hole there and the ponies and buggy with the minister aboard went in. The ponies started swimming downstream with Mr. Habbersham standing up on the seat with the lines to steady himself. Finally they came to a sand bar where the ponies got their feet on solid ground again and refused to go farther. So the Reverend had to get out and wade ashore to go for help. He wasn't far from Newsham's, so some of them went back with him; but in the meantime, the ponies had decided to go adventuring and had disappeared. The men went farther downstream and finally found the ponies out in a small piece of grass having a good meal.

My sister Elizabeth married William Cosby of Honora, Ontario; they never came to Alberta. Elizabeth died April 1958 and was buried at Little Current, Ontario.

My brother John never married. He died December 1965 and was buried at Wainwright. My father, Samuel McLean, died June 1916; and my mother, Elizabeth McLean died July 1936; both parents are buried in Edgerton, Alberta. I was married in 1923 at Tofield and live at Wainwright, Alberta.

DONALD McMILLAN by Edith May Quartly (his daughter)

Donald McMillan was born on a farm in Arnprior, Ontario. He married Janet Ferguson of Bonnechee Pt. near the Ottawa River. He left the farm in Ontario in 1904 and came with his wife and family to the Antler Hill district where his friend Archie Cameron had settled. He took typhoid during the trip and passed away at Innisfail before the family was able to unload all their belongings. The family had to fare for themselves the best way they knew how. I think I was most impressed by how my grandmother managed to get along with her children, the oldest 14 and the youngest, 3 months, after their father passing away so suddenly. They managed for five years until she met and married Bob McAdam on July 27, 1909. He also was a homesteader. I've heard my father say if it hadn't been for Ace Ford, he didn't know how they'd have managed. Also, Mr. G.W. West was so kind to our family over the years. He told my grandmother to come when she had money and when she didn't. She used to make butter and bring it in exchange for groceries.

Their first neighbors were Archie Cameron, Bob Niblock, Ace Ford, Brushes, and Edwin Songhurst. Early families I remember most: Gord. Healys, Fayses, Alex Niblocks, Bill McGillivray, Biggs, Campbells, Swankies, Alex Oaks, Quartlys, Les Shanks, Dan MacGillivray. I received my grade eight



Donald McMillan

diploma attending school at Antler Hill and Hill End.

I've heard my dad, Donald, talk of the May snow storm in 1906 and there were many storms where they would lose cattle, as there were very few fences and the cattle would drift with the storm. He has mentioned hunting for them for days after a storm and finding them only to have to dig them out of the snow along the bushes where they'd gone for shelter from the storm.

Donald McMillan died May 11, 1904; Janet McMillan McAdam died Feb. 3, 1953; Robert McAdam died Feb. 14, 1943; all buried in Innisfail cemetery. Donald and Janet had five children, all born in Ontario:

John Osborne — (died Jan. 25, 1970 at Kamloops) married Margaret Shoemaker of Turner Valley; 3 children: Donald, Hazel, Kenneth.

Donald James — (Chase, B.C.) married Annie Levena Hall on Dec. 6, 1916. They had two children, Robert and Edith.

Dougal — (died Dec. 1, 1944) married Elsie Schneck, Wetaskiwin, 1 daughter Marion.

Hazel — married Fred Kuckenberker July 3, 1935; no children; San Juan, California.

Menzie — served in the Army; present whereabouts unknown.



Mrs. McAdam, Donald McMillan's mother.

MEYERS STORY by James A. Meyers

Grandfather, J.M. Meyers, came from Grand Rapid, Michigan in 1901 to the Pine Lake Area. He was born November 4, 1844 from parents whose ancestors came from Switzerland. They were mint farmers, grew peppermint and processed it into oil.

His first endeavour in Alberta was a small log house about twenty miles east of Innisfail. This house was used as a stopping place for people travelling between Elnora and Innisfail. He later built and moved into a large farm house which became known as the Faught house in 1905.

Clare E. Meyers (son of James and Esther Meyers), a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering, from Ann Arbor College in Michigan received lurid stories about the fabulous Innisfail area from his grandfather, where you could triple your money in ten years by investing in land. He was so enthused, that he left his work of railway bridge construction in Arkansas to come to Alberta. Records show taxes on one section of land owned by Clare Meyers was the whole sum of \$16.00. In 1909 he married the former Ella Elizabeth Kinsey of Port Elgen, who died in 1925, leaving him with one son, James A. Meyers. Clare Meyers died February 28, 1942.



James M. Meyers

James A. Meyers married the former Ella Elizabeth Petterson in 1947. James still owns a portion of the land purchased by his father in 1905. He resides in the town of Innisfail. He is the holder of a Master's Electricians' Certificate and Electronic Technician's Certificate. He received his education at Howell's Lake and SAIT in Calgary. He and his wife are engaged in an electrical contracting and electronic business in Innisfail.

Grandmother Meyers died in 1948. Grandfather Meyers died in 1926.

THE MICHEL FAMILY by Mrs. Mabel Kelly

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas J. Michiel with their family of one girl (Nellie) and six sons: Gordon, Roy, Freddie, Stan, Clarence and Harl came from Calgary. Thomas Michiel traded the farm he had in Airdrie



The Michiel's at home.

for the present farm and moved to the Oklahoma district in 1914. He was born in Barrie, Ontario and came west because of hearing this was the "land of plenty".

They drove with team and wagons from Airdrie and it took them three days. They slept in lofts of livery stables on a horse blanket. They even brought a heifer calf on a hay rack along with their other possessions. Thomas came first and then Gordon and Roy brought most of the other things. Previous to coming here, he had contracted in Calgary as well as homesteading in Airdrie and was a former Salvation Army Officer.

In 1922, Thomas moved to the West Coast and Gordon then took over the farm. They did much in helping their neighbors and the best they could in making a living. No one was ever turned away who needed any type of assistance. The Michiel house was built in 1900 by Spears and Jim Lewis.

They got their groceries from Innisfail that weren't available from their garden or meat supply on the farm. To go to town was an all day occasion.

Gordon Michiel married Emma Lillian Schultz January 31, 1920. She came from Bashaw. Children born to Gordon and Lillian Michiel were: Frederick James who married Olive Forbes. They have four children: Wilma, who married Charlie Dezall and resides in Caroline. They have five sons. Mabel who married Brian Kelly and lives in the Gordon district. Dorothy, who married Harold Bilow and resides at Bashaw. They have two children.

Some of the first neighbors were Birds, Abrahams, and Kellys. These families were not only neighbors, but very good friends through the years.



Mrs. Michiel and Mrs. Fred Cook going to town.

Gordon was in the Army in 1916-18 and again joined the Canadian Forces serving from 1940 - 1945. Frederick served from 1941 - 1945 spending time overseas.

In the early days they had ball teams and had a community drama that used to put on plays and dances. They would drive a lot of miles to go to a dance and would get home in the wee hours of the morning in time to get the chores done and back to regular work. Money came in from milking cows, hauling wood, hay and some grain.

The Gordon Michiel family went to the Oklahoma School. Other families in the school district were the Lewis', Hockens, Lairds, Dunks, Ditchburns, Jordans, Dysons and Newshams. Some of the teachers were Mr. Quantz, Mrs. Swan, Mr. Willet, Mr. Pollock and Mr. Bowles.

The co-operation in the early days was something very special. If one family went to Innisfail, they did shopping for the other families in the district. In the winter, the roads were drifted shut until the people got together and dug them out. In the spring it was a common thing for people to come and need a pull out of a mud hole or up the river hill. We lived close to the river and we had many times to come to the rescue of someone. One time one of the neighbors came in the night and took the team of horses from the barn and pulled themselves out of the mud and then put them back in the barn. We would never have known only they didn't hang the harness back the same way we did. It was later we heard who it was. This is something of early days that is missing somewhat in the progress of our country and it would be my hope that it will not be one of those lost commodities.

JOHN FREDERICK MILLER STORY as told by Mary Kaasa

My father John F. Miller came to Innisfail with his mother and brother Bill in 1892. He was born in Harriston, Wellington County, Ontario, but from there he had gone to Crystal, North Dakota and came from N.D. to Innisfail. They bought their first home here for \$90.00 and kept adding to it through the years. His first job in the early days was on the railroad under "Dad" Smith. He also worked as a blacksmith with Jack Wilson after finishing his work with the railway. In 1900 he became a member of the Macabee Lodge. In 1902 he married Laura Varty and they made their home at the Miller residence. Mr. Miller (My Dad) was one of the first members of the Innisfail Fire Brigade at the time of its' formation. I remember him telling of the early fires he attended and a horse drawn engine was used and later this was donated as a museum piece to a group in Wetaskiwin. In 1907 my Dad was a member of the team from the local fire brigade winning the hose laying contest in the Provincial contest. The medal he won on that occasion was a cherished possession. Some of the other firemen were: Tom White & Billy Beatty. He attended the opening of the Calgary Stampede in 1912 and we all looked forward to this occasion as we would all go down and camp near the grounds. It was



Innisfail Fire Brigade

the highlight most looked forward to all year by the family.

For 22 yrs. he served as projectionist at the theatre in Innisfail. He first worked for the Bodie Bros. then G.E. Bryan and then Red McDonald doing projection work for them all.

At one time he had a contract for hauling mail and had a horse and cutter for this work. He unloaded many loads of flour for G.W. West and also hauled from the West elevator to the tracks.

Mother was a real businesswoman and could make a dollar when everyone else would starve to death. I remember when she got a better washing machine which cost a lot in those days, and to pay for it she did the hospital washing all night. I remember too the time there was to be a dance in the Old Opera House and Mother got the job of putting up the lunch and made 80 pumpkin pies for the occasion. My Uncle Bill had a confectionery with his Mother for some time and then later Uncle Bill went back to the United States.

My Dad helped organize the first "swimming pool" which was at Mud Lake. He donated to the project by working at the digging of the pool with horses and a



People gathered for a silent movie about 1910; Jack Miller, Projectionist.

large scoop. He was always interested in boxing and wrestling. For years he operated a draying business.

There were two daughters born to Jack & Laura Miller — Mary (Mrs. Irvin Kaasa) and Edith (Mrs. Frank Wolf). We both attended school in Innisfail. I attended school with Earl Beattie, Everett & Mary Dougherty, the Daines twins, Katie Wilson, and Nobel Shanks. My favorite Teacher was Fay Sherwood.

In looking back I remember so well the yellow car that Frank West had and he, Reg Geary and Jim Brown used to be everywhere with that car. I also shall be ever thankful to Doctor G.C. Wagner and Mac West for all they did for my daughter Iris — if it hadn't been for them we wouldn't have her today. We had the two daughters — Edith and Iris. We retired to Calgary in 1955, but to me Innisfail will always be our home and the place we are so interested in.

MILLIGAN STORY by Jack Milligan

James Milligan was born May 3rd, 1873 at Thornhill, Dumfrieshire, Scotland and went to school at Dumfries and Edinburgh University. After the death of his father he managed "Hayfield", an arable farm near Dumfries and a large sheep farm "Scibercross" near Rogart in Sutherlandshire. It was there he met Catherine Sangster of "Rovie". Catherine was born May 22, 1875 and went to school at Banff (Scotland) and London. They were married in Edinburgh on June 4th, 1902 and lived for the most of the next eight years at Scibercross where the first four children of the family were born: James — June 1, 1903; Iris — September 10, 1904; Kathleen — January 2, 1906; and John — January 12, 1907.

The farm in Dumfrieshire and the sheepfarm were sold to settle the Estate and it was at that time that James Milligan decided to emigrate to Canada with his family. He chose Calgary due to the fact that a long time friend, W.D. McLennen was living there.

They sailed from Liverpool on May 10, 1910 on the "Empress of Britain" and after what seemed like an endless journey arrived in Calgary. Soon after their arrival, they purchased the Watts Farm, west of Innisfail. One year later the farm was sold to the Sutherland Canadian Lands Company who were starting a farming venture in Canada and had chosen Innisfail as one of the projects. At the same time the Company also purchased the farms belonging to the Carters, Sandy Frazer, Jim Brown, McDonalds and some land from the Hudson Bay Company.

After the sale, the Milligans moved to Victoria and lived there for one year while James Milligan was inspecting land in the Caribou District for the S.C. Lands Company. In 1912, James Milligan returned to Innisfail with his family to manage the Sutherland Canadian Lands Company farm and lived in the brick house on the Carter place which turned out to be their home for the next thirty years or so.

In the early days there was tennis in the summer and curling in the winter and dances in the Little Red Deer School that often lasted from chore time to chore time. The days were often long in the cold

weather of winter before the coming of radio. We did have the rural telephone.

For the first three or four years after returning to Innisfail, the children attended the Little Red Deer School along with the Brown's, Scott's, Edgar's, Scarlett's, Manuel's, Simpson's, Davidson's, Campbell's and Wright's to name a few. How we remember the trips on a cold winter morning down Creamery Lane to school. In those days spring would arrive almost overnight and the snow would go. It seemed like a whole new world and the cold winter was soon forgotten — the birds would be back and the young calves and colts would arrive. It was fun growing up, there always seemed to be so many things to do. While still in junior grades, the family changed to Innisfail school.



Mr. James Milligan



Mrs. Catherine Milligan

Patrick Barclay was born in Calgary — January 12, 1916.

Jimmie died in February, 1920 while attending Agriculture College in Olds.

Iris received a teaching certificate and taught primary grades at Innisfail School until she married Rev. John Oriel in January 1934. They have one daughter and one son and are now retired and living in Stillwater, Minnesota.

Kitty received her R.N. in 1928 after training at the Calgary General, she nursed at Vegreville and Lacombe before going to Juneau, Alaska to nurse in the hospital there. She married Robert Keaton in June, 1931. They have two sons and two daughters and are now retired and living in Snohomish, Washington.

Jack attended Technical School at Calgary and later worked for the Canadian Western Natural Gas Company. He married Maria Nichol in March 1934. They have one son and one daughter. He joined the Canadian Army in 1940 and spent five years in Britain and Europe. They have been living in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan for the past twenty years where they have a Mechanical Contracting business.

After leaving school, Pat farmed for several years on the McDonald place. He married Jean Loughlean in January 1939. They have three sons. After leaving the farm he bought grain in Innisfail and Okotoks un-

til he built and operated the Okotoks Feed Service. A few years ago the original Mill burned down and was replaced with a new and modern plant. Pat has helped to guide the affairs of their town, first as an alderman and for the past several terms as Mayor.

James Milligan continued to farm until retiring to Innisfail about 1949. He died in Calgary on October 3, 1952 and is buried in the Innisfail Cemetery.

Catherine Milligan moved to Calgary in 1952 and went to live at Rundle Lodge where she had an enjoyable ten years. She died August 30, 1965 at the age of 90 years and is buried in the family plot at Innisfail.

THE MOFFAT STORY by Kenneth Moffat

The Moffat families came from Scotland, and Mothers' family (Kitchings) came from England early in the 1800's. This took up to 13 weeks crossing the Atlantic. They settled in Halton county, Ontario and cleared the heavy timbers to make farms. Father's parents both died young, leaving a young family of two boys and four girls. Because of rheumatism, Father went to California in 1893 and got complete relief. In California he worked on a wheat farm, one of a crew of three, operating a combine pulled by 26 horses and mules. It was later that he worked on a fruit ranch as teamster. Four years later he returned to Ontario and prepared to come West to farm. He and his brother Jim came out in 1899. (A cousin Jack Moffat had come west as a surveyor and had taken land here.) The brothers both took up land east of Innisfail at the head of the Knee Hill Valley — built a house and broke a few acres. They returned to Ontario in the fall, married and prepared to come out with "Settlers' Effects" to take on an environment that would and did break many a man.

Uncle Jim & Aunt Flora and 3 children had it tough. They put in four crops and never threshed a bushel. They packed up and went back to Ontario. The next year (1905) was better and gave our folks heart to stay with it.

Father served for many years on the school board and the municipal council. He raised many fine hor-



Mr. and Mrs. Chris Moffat with Harold and Annie in 1904.

ses and cattle. He won top prizes at the Calgary, Milnerton and Innisfail fairs with his sheep. He served on the Milnerton & Innisfail fair boards. He died at the age of 68 in 1939 and is buried in Innisfail.

Mother is one of the best examples of a pioneer woman. She worked like a slave to feed and clothe a large family under conditions that were often very trying. I can't remember ever seeing her "down". It was her spirit and tenacity that kept us all going on many occasions. She still enjoys good health at 97 yrs. (1973). She was always interested in church work, played the organ and taught Sunday School for many years. She now resides at the West Park Nursing Home and still plays the piano for the enjoyment of others.

One story of the early days that comes to mind concerns "Royalty". Prince Eric of Denmark. Father was preparing to leave town one Saturday night, had stopped to load up some supplies when Prince Eric came up the street in a car (a rare and noisy outfit in those days) and the team took fright. Father had just made it into the rig but the team was turning so fast he was thrown out. Imagine if you can, a high spirited team going flat out through rush hour traffic, heading for home and you will appreciate what Father was thinking. Prince Eric took Father into his car and started after the runaways. About three miles out of town one line got wrapped in a wheel and pulled the team off the road into a slough and there they stopped. The Prince never hesitated a minute, but waded right in with Father to get the outfit straightened out. Luckily no people were hurt, but one horse received some wire cuts going through the fence.

Like me, farming was all Father knew. When one considers the adversities they are faced with it is a wonder they were able to hang on — the first years too wet, low prices, frost, hail, drought, early winters when the crop would stay out all winter, heavy losses of livestock (they didn't have modern medicine and feeds), depressions, doctor and hospital bills and an ever tightening cost-price squeeze. It's no wonder many a farmer just quit.

There were 9 children born to Mr. & Mrs. Chris Moffat: Harold, Annie, Alex, Menzie, Wilfrid, Kenneth, Robert, Irene, Ralph.



Mrs. Chris Moffat with Annie, Harold, Alex, Menzie, Wilfred, Kenneth, and Bob.

Harold and Menzie farmed until retirement; Wilfred died in 1925 at 15 yrs. He is buried in Innisfail; Alex went to Vancouver many yrs. ago. Married Lila Tulary. They had 2 sons (Norman & Keith), three daughters (Ramona, Evelyn & Florence). Alex was employed for many years by the C.P.R. and died in 1970; Kenneth (me) married Gertrude Hooper in 1938. We have 4 daughters and one son: Elizabeth, Kathryn, Margaret, Lorraine (died in infancy), John. I operate most of the old farm today. Irene married Raymond Bennett in 1938 and they have 6 sons: Ronald, Russell, Dwayne, Lyle, Brian and Chris. Raymond was killed crossing the highway at Innisfail. Irene later married Virgil Flake. Robert worked like a trojan to get through high school and university. He became a teacher and taught school ever since except while he was away to the war. He went overseas as reinforcement for the Loyal Edmonton Regiment serving first in Italy. Later he joined the First Special Services Force, a Commando unit, and served in France and Germany. He held the rank of Lieutenant. After his discharge, he went to



Chris Moffat back in the 1890's with 26 mules to a team.

Seattle, and married there. Ralph worked on the farm until joining the army. He served as a tank driver in the Sherbrooke Fusiliers, a regiment that served in every major engagement the Canadian Army fought in on the western front. Bob and Ralph came through the "Thick of it" with no ill effects. Ralph took up mechanics after the war and has lived in Seattle for many years and married there.

Our closest neighbors in the early days were: Ted Heather (see Heather Story). We farm their place now. The Velge's lived west of us and they came from Great Britain. Jim Hawkins, a war veteran, lived on the Velge place later and was a great horseman and did breaking for many farmers in the days before tractors took over. There were also the Rollinsons and later John Quartley on the north. There was the John Marshall family, Edward Oyler and family who came from England. The Oyler log house still stands and at certain times of the year, in later afternoon the windows reflect the sunshine. As children we referred to it as "the house with the golden windows". Robert Wynn lived on the south of Oylers. The Gunstons were our neighbors to the south west. I went to school with Lottie, Marjory was one of my teachers and Harry was a friend and good neighbor all his life.

Other names that come to mind include: Wm. Gundston, Charley Gunston, Arthur Pollock, Wm. Kirkup, Fred Mainwaring, Lem & Phil Holden, Archie Hoar, Arthur Young, W. Hewitt, Gus Roper, Tom, Bob, John and Anthony Smith, Truman and Norman Sparks, Bill & Jack Barclay, the Biltons, Whealons, Scotts, Calverts, Holts, Thurstons, Hiberns, Centers, Wier, Hoopers, Laydens, Nolan, McArthur, McKenzie, Flynn, Wood, Lockwood, Saunders, Krause, Hamilton and many more.

The year 1899 was the end of a very long dry period. Many sloughs were dry that have never been dry since. 1900 was the first of 3 or 4 years of very heavy rains. It got so wet it was often impossible to seed or harvest any crop. One can only imagine how frustrating it must have been. The winter of 1906-07 will go down in history as one of the worst — starting early, lots of snow and bitter cold until late spring. Thousands of cattle perished and we can only imagine the hardships of the early settlers.

For recreation it was mainly community picnics, dances and concerts in local schools. One special



Harold and Alex Moffat with Shropshire lambs.

treat for us was the Ringling Brothers' Circus. Our family all attended school at Pleasant Valley. The family names of those I went to school with were: Stringer, Flynn, Wilton, Schaefer, Troyer, Gunston, Pollock, Hewitt, Mainwaring, Falconer, Hoar, Normandeau, Potter, White, Scott, Gerrard and Hinton.

I was on the Pleasant Valley school board for years; the Bowden Feeders Assn., as President for many years, was instrumental in starting the Innisfail Municipal Seed Plant and served as chairman of the board for 12 years. I have been on the board of the United Church for a number of years. Also I was active in the Knee Hill Valley Pee Wee and 4-H beef calf clubs.

I'll cite a couple of recollections of old timers: Fred Archer who lived just south of town came from Ireland a young man and worked on the river log drives, getting soaked through every day. He also hauled freight from Winnipeg to Edmonton with oxen. I wish I could remember how much he hauled at a load, but he had to have a load heavy to make it pay. What a trip it would be. He later farmed at Innisfail and was in business there, Archer & Simpson. He served as M.L.A. His brother Charles "Captain" Archer 'went to sea' at the age of 16 as a cabin boy and followed the sea until he was too old to get a license — always under sail. He saw every port in the world (sailed the Great Lakes for three years) was ship-wrecked 3 times — Oh, would that his entire story be told. He spent his retirement with his brother Fred far from his true love — the rolling sea.

JOHN ALEXANDER MOFFAT by Mrs. W.E. Schrader (Agnes E. Moffat)

John Alexander Moffat was born at Milton, Ontario in 1875. He worked in a lime kiln in Milton, but had an urge to go west and in 1893 journeyed by settler's train with some friends and took out a homestead in the Aberdeen district. His mother, Elizabeth Moffat, a widow for several years, came west two years later and kept house for him.

He often told of the tragic story of a friend of his. This man lived about three miles away, a bachelor who was quite well to do. He was a friendly chap and visited with his neighbours often. One morning Dad and his cousin, Erastus Center, called to visit their friend and found his house in ashes with the cellar still smoking where they found his charred body. On examining the body the police found he had been shot and his house set afire. There was a stranger in the district and after this tragedy he disappeared; no one knew where he went.

In 1899, Dad married Annie Laing, who came from Scotland with her family at the age of four. They settled in Ingersoll, Ont. and came from there to Alberta in 1891. She was 13 years old at the time and walked to the Hill End School to complete her education. The school was six miles from her home.

Mother told us about making the trip to Calgary with Grandpa Laing for supplies. The trip would take six to seven days by team and wagon. Grandpa would take a load of potatoes with him to trade for the necessary supplies such as flour, sugar, tea, rock salt,

dried fruit and vegetables, oatmeal and 15 to 20 gallons of kerosene in a heavy glass jug wrapped in braided straw.

The weather was severe in winter with deep snow. Winter often lasted from October until May. Rains started around the turn of the century and lasted off and on for 7 years. Some of the trails completely disappeared. The main trail east went through our place, then divided north to Hill End and Edwell and east to Pine Lake. Homesteaders from Eastern Canada and the United States were continually moving in and out. One day a covered wagon drawn by horses, with a cow behind, came to our place. A man, his wife, and five children stayed and rested at our place for a few days. On the side of their wagon canvas was a sign, "We have been frozen out, starved out, drowned out, and now we are going out and going to stay out." They went back to the U.S.A.

Dad and Mother used to tell us the story of friends — two brothers, who lived east near Pine Lake and had a large herd of cattle. They became caught on the range in a heavy snow storm. One brother rode to bring the cattle in; his horse arrived home a week later but without a rider. His body was found that spring where he had frozen to death in the storm.

In summer Dad raced horses. We all enjoyed games of baseball and horse shoes as well as house dances, card parties, birthday parties, and box socials. Some of the early families I remember were the Hoveys, Waites, Rawlinsons, Lalors, Biswangers, Holdens, Stanways, and Centers. Dad belonged to the I.O.O.F. Lodge along with Wm. and Oscar Watt, Blair McMillan, Stuart Choate and D. McCallum.

Children of John and Annie Moffat:

Dick Moffat — who resides on the original homestead.

Agnes — married Walter Schrader of Har-mattan in 1932. Walt passed away in July of 1970 and I reside on the farm where we lived in the Crammond district. Our son, Jack married Margaret Fletcher in 1960 and they have three children — Joanne, Eugene, and Edward. Jack and his family reside on the Schrader Ranch at James River Bridge.

Grandma Moffat passed away in 1910. Dad (John Moffat) passed away in 1911. Mother remarried in 1919 to Frank Sivyer. Frank passed away about 1945 and mother passed away in July 1965. All are buried in the Innisfail Cemetery. The old Moffat family home burned down in September 1950 and all records and keepsakes were lost.

HARRY BURLSLIEGH MOORE by Harry Walker Moore

Harry Bursliegh Moore was born in Prince Edward Island in 1878. He came to Innisfail in the 1890's to work with his brother, Jack Moore, in the creamery that was east of Innisfail on the present Ollie Mace place. In the winter they cut and hauled ice from the Red Deer River for use in the creamery. Harry later took up a homestead with the George Oxtobys, Tapperels and Munros as neighbors.

In 1902 he married Violet Maggie Jane Dobson, who had come from Klineburg, Ont. in the 1890's.

They first lived in a log house on the farm; then built the house which is still standing on the farm. In 1912 a 60' x 30' barn was built and equipped for pigs. I can remember they quite often held up a train until Dad could get a hog loaded — he sold quite a few of his pigs for breeding stock.

Dad grew a lot of potatoes and took them to Fairs getting First and Special prizes for them. When the first World War broke out in 1914, the price of pigs dropped to 1-1/2c a lb. and grain went up to \$3 a bushel. Dad had 200 Berkshire pigs at the time and said he "wouldn't raise another pig again," and never did. He concentrated then on his purebred Holstein Herd.

Mr. Aberhart and Mr. Ernest Manning used to come from Calgary and stay with the Moore's. They opened the Baptist Church which used to be where the CO-op store now stands. Mrs. Violet Moore and Mrs. John Thurston turned the first sod for the new Baptist Church in Innisfail.

We children attended school in Innisfail. Teachers that I remember are Mrs. Hodges, and Miss Blenkhorne; school mates — Bertha McLean, Norman Bond, Frank Malcolm, George Sherwood, Mac Ferry.

Dad died in March 1942 and mother in Feb. 1969; both are buried in Innisfail.

They had four children:

Lillian — married Charlie Emrich on April 3, 1926. (see story)

Dorothy — married Lawrence Gibbon on Aug. 11, 1928; reside in Innisfail; four children: Laurie — m. Orville Willis; Innisfail; Hal, Barbara, Patsy. Doreen — m. Jack Carr; Innisfail Grahamston district; Lorne, Kevin, Jacquelyn. Harold — m. Muriel Sharp; Fort McMurray; Darcy. Bob — m. Karen Gerrard; Innisfail; Denise, Jason.

Harry Walker — married Alberta Latimer March 31, 1932; no family; farmed his father's homestead; now retired in Innisfail.

Marjorie — married Stewart McKay July 30, 1938; Calgary; two children: Veronica — m. Jerry Matychuck, Calgary; Muriel — lives with her parents.

JOHN R. MOORE

John R. Moore, known as "J.R." was a native son of Prince Edward Island. He was Innisfail's first butter maker and in charge of the first Creamery in Innisfail. This creamery was situated on a hill where the cover-leaf on Highway 2 is today.

His brothers, Harry and Stewart, and sister Marion, all of P.E.I., followed him out to Innisfail and this family became some of our Pioneers.

J.R. Moore married Ivy Cooke (see Cooke Story). They had three sons and one daughter: Harold, who has two sons and 1 daughter, Allen who married Margaret Black. They had five children (see Black Story): Bursleigh who married Edith Songhurst. They have six children: Jack, Elaine, Shiela, Ted, Marleen and Earl. Vivian, their only daughter married Neil Laing and they had one daughter Maxine.

J.R. was Secretary-treasurer of the Innisfail Hospital for many years. He took an active part in the Masonic Lodge and both he and his wife were Charter members of the Order of the Eastern Star. Both were great community workers.

THE ROLAND MOORE FAMILY by Ralph Moore

One morning towards the end of March in the year of 1907 Roland and Maude Moore, with their five children, and meager possessions got off the train at Innisfail and proceeded to get rooms at the Royal Hotel where they were able to enjoy their first good rest in many days. Previous to the start of the journey their comfortable home located in Charlottetown, P.E.I. had been sold but many items of furniture, clothing, silver and various other items of household effects were held back from the sale and carefully crated for the shipping West. Some two weeks went by before this shipment arrived in Innisfail.

When the weary travellers became mobile next day, Roland hired a team and democrat. With a couple of suitcases, some groceries and the family intact all headed East to what was to be their home for many years.

Roland had been out in this general area in 1885 with a survey gang. He liked the look of what he saw and so in 1903 he was able to return. Section 15-Twp. 35- Rge. 25- W4th was purchased from Forrester Bros. together with their sizeable herd of stock and so the Moore ranch was established and it has carried on through the years. Having to return East to wind up his affairs and prepare the family for the long trip West, Roland was fortunate to be able to arrange with a neighbor, Mr. Geo. Oakes, to take care of things while he was away. It was good to find Geo. unloading a load of hay for the stock when the family arrived tired and cold after their four hour trip from town.

It was pretty grim arriving at almost a bare shack late in the day after such a tiresome journey. However, everyone seemed to sense that this was home and for better or worse there could be no turning back now. As they became adjusted so did their roots start to sink in in their new environment. Soon there were two cows to milk night and morning. There were a few hens, more were added and soon eggs appeared on the table from time to time. Without power and the many appliances we enjoy today, meat was one of the big problems through the summer months. Mind, a trip to town once a month was considered good. Sometimes every six weeks was the best we could do. About twenty-five yards from the house a spring supplied the drinking water which had to be carried in pails. Quite a chore in itself. However, much use was made of this spring by the storage of meat, butter, cream, etc. during the hot summer months. In summer when a rig from the ranch went to town a good sized piece of beef came back with it. Some would be cooked at once, some would go to the spring where it would keep fresh for about a week even in the hottest weather, whatever was left over mother Moore would can. Cured pork

was usually kept on hand and beans, vegetables, plus fruits, (often native) made up the diet. I can not remember anyone going hungry while at the Moore ranch at any time.

Haying was a big job at the Moore ranch those first few years. We had one hired man on a yearly basis but for haying extra help was employed. A full crew was two mowers, a hay rake, and two men to stack by means of a slide and four horses hitched to a bucking pole. Hay was raked into winrows, then bunched, then one man would sweep the hay into the stack, hand over one team to the stacker then, with one team pulling on each side of the slide up would go the load, down would come the bucking pole to repeat the performance all over again.

During those first years most of the hay was cut on unfenced C.P.R. land. One practise of hayers of those days is worthy of mention. Of course long before haying a scout would pick out the hay their outfit wanted. Come the time to start operations the mower or mowers would cut a swath around this particular field and woe betide the man from another outfit who dared to cut inside the area thus described. As time went by open range for both pasture and hay disappeared. By 1915 ranchers had to adjust their herds to what they could take care of either on their own or on rented land.

At that time cattle were not fed and marketed as they are today. The herd was brought through the winter on hay, then when spring came they were put back on pasture. Sometime in October they were considered to be prime and so a round-up of the ones to be offered to buyers was made. Of course in herd management some cows were sold and some heifers held back, but generally speaking, the cattle offered for sale were three year olds. Without phones how the buyers knew just when these cattle were ready for market remains a mystery yet, no sooner were the cattle ready than a buyer would appear. Wish we could record a typical sale in greater detail, however it would start something like this. If your cattle were mostly red he would be looking for whitefaces. If you had whitefaces he would want Angus only. Only as a favour to you, in view of the depressed market would he take the cattle at either so much a head or at so much per pound. The seller would point out that his offering were fine beef animals in prime condition therefore the least he would take would be so & so and then the bargaining would start. All buyers used much the same approach but finally the beef would be sold and soon thereafter a drive would begin.

From the Moore ranch most sales were delivered to Innisfail. The cattle would be held the first night of the drive two or three miles from town then delivered the next afternoon to the yards. In 1908 one drive was an exception. Sixty-five or seventy head were delivered to the yards at Red Deer. This drive took up three days. First night was spent with Mr. Wm. Walton at Edwell. The second night the cattle were held on the farm of Mr. Heck Gaetz about three miles S.E. of town, then driven to the yards on the afternoon of the third. The fact that R.M. (as he was of-

ten called) and his eldest son made this drive without extra help should help illustrate the difference between conditions then and as they exist today.

When the weather warmed up in the spring the first green grass that cows could get a mouthful of would shoot up around the edge of some of the sloughs. At this time close watch was kept on the cattle in case one got bogged down. Another P.E. Islander by the name of Brenton Lowther stayed at the ranch for a short time. Brent seemed to be somewhat afraid of both cattle and horses and soon decided this was no place for him. One morning Ralph rode out to check some cows that were feeding around a small muskeg about one quarter mile from home. One old cow with a good set of horns had done a fine job of getting herself bogged down. Ralph's small saddle horse could not begin to free her so he rode back to the buildings and got Brent to come with another rope, and a work horse with harness and singletree. With the two horses pulling, out the cow came. Brent got his rope off the cows horns when up jumped the cow and charged him. Without pause Brent ran into the muskeg with the cow at his heels. Fortunately Ralph's rope was still on the cow and by moving his horse in the opposite direction he was able to halt the charge. However Brent fell full length in the slime and came up covered from head to foot on his front side with mud, slime and what have you. Perhaps the kidding he received as a result of this encounter persuaded him to shorten his stay at the ranch.

In the spring of 1908 mother decided that with so many cows around there was no good reason why we should not be milking fifteen cows and so we agreed to fill the order. Now I do not know how many readers have had the fun of breaking in twelve or fifteen range cows in a short space of time. As cows that looked promising freshened, into the corral they went. Now you did not just pick up a pail and a stool and start milking. First your cow had to be roped and snubbed or tied. Then the right hind leg was drawn back with another rope after you were ready to start. If the cow would give one or two gallons of milk at this stage she was kept on as a milk cow, if not the calf was put back on her and another was found to take her place.

The above describes the first stage in the operation only. As the cow became more gentle but as yet not too docile one method was to put a rope around the cow just in front of the udder and pull and secure it quite tight. This sometimes worked quite well. Another method was to take a short length of quarter inch rope and tie it in the form of a figure eight just above the hocks. All three methods were employed in this stance but mother got her fifteen milk cows and she did her full share milking those and other cows for many many years.

R.M. in addition to his cattle was a lover of horses as well. To describe this side of his operation would take up more space than that allotted to us. Sufficient to say that at their peak R.M. 8s brand was on twenty or thirty good grade Percheron mares making up a herd of seventy-five to eighty head all told.

With his young family around him R.M. played a leading role in organizing Mt. Pleasant School. He remained on the board as secretary-treasurer for several years after the school became a going concern. Apart from this effort R.M. was pretty much a man who stayed at home. One interest however he never let flag, was his interest in the local chapter of the Masonic Lodge. Roland passed away in his 88th year and rests beside his wife Maude in the local cemetery here at Innisfail.

Even several times the space allotted here would be insufficient to extol the many virtues of Roland's loving wife Maude. Maude was the dynamo that made things go. Not only did she make a home that was a home for her own family of five she was also mother to three of Wesley Banks children after Wesley's wife passed on during his stay at the ranch. Then, though growing older, she took three more young children left motherless when Ruth died after undergoing massive surgery both at Edmonton and here at home. All through the years Mother Moore never faltered or failed in doing that which there was to do. Even rural electric power came too late for her. After a short illness mother passed away in the Innisfail General Hospital. If there is a place in Heaven reserved for mothers then mother Moore will be there.

We now live in a world far different to the world of some sixty-five years ago. Will the next sixty-five years bring forth as many changes as have the years just gone by? Who knows. May we hope that sixty-five years from now someone will be able to say to their offspring, "See, we leave even a finer heritage for your children to enjoy." Let us hope that when that day comes man and woman will not only know far better than we how to deal with their environment but that then maybe, just maybe, man and woman will know how better to deal with themselves.

CECIL MOORE FAMILY

Charles married Janice Harder. They have three children. Judy completed Gr. XII and intends to be a teacher. Bonnie at home.

MORISON STORY by Mrs. B.D. Popovich & Mrs. Jack Thomson

My grandparents, William Morison and Helen Gordon were born at the same place in Scotland (County of Moffat) in September 16, 1833 and February 29, 1852 respectively. They were united in marriage about 1874.

They came to Canada with their family of four, Mary, William, Jack and George (predeceased by three daughters) in Scotland. They left Port Ellen, Eslay and travelled by boat and then by train across Canada until they arrived in Innisfail in 1898.

Grandpa had been a sheep rancher in Scotland and had decided there was more opportunities in Canada for his young family, besides having health problems and feeling Canada would have a better climate.

A man by the name of L.M. Sage, who had a livery barn in Red Deer took them out for a tour of the country to see where they would choose to settle. He

tried to encourage Grandpa to buy all the water front property around Sylvan Lake, but Grandpa didn't think it looked very productive farm land. They decided to settle in the Big Bend district. He homesteaded the property that is presently owned by Dr. Jack Wagner of Red Deer.

The first load of lumber was hauled to start building a house. Unfortunately the rains came at this time, and lasted for six weeks. By this time, everyone in the area was getting very low on groceries. The whole flat at the river flooded and the river was too dangerous to cross. Grandma came along and told the boat owner to get her across, one look at her determined face and he knew she meant business. Across they went and into town for the much needed groceries, for her own family and for neighbors.

Grandpa and the boys raised cattle, pigs, chickens and milked many cows when they first came. They had their cream cheques and traded eggs for groceries in Innisfail.

I've been told that Grandpa was a very quiet, gentle man and if anything was sick it was Grandpa they came to for help. He had had some formal training in medicine in Scotland. He was a member of the school board in Big Bend and also a member of the Masonic Lodge.

They also had their own private dances in their homes and ball games and cards were a great source of entertainment to these pioneers. Much time was spent at the George Duncan farm too, as he was a violin maker, and the family was very eager to watch such an interesting process.

Some of the original currant bushes, brought from Scotland, are still growing and producing on the Jack Thomson farm in the Little Red Deer district.

Early neighbors were George Cundan, Alden, Sullivan, Potter, Halderson, John Brown and Hatch families.

Of the four children who came to Canada with Grandpa and Grandma none are living now. Grandpa Morison passed away March 5, 1915 at the age of 82 years and Grandma Morison in April, 1942 at the age of 90 years.

May they rest in peace, these fine pioneers of our country.

Children born to Mr. & Mrs. Wm. Morison were:
Mary Agnes Morison who married Ewen Simpson — (see E. Simpson story)

Jack Morison who married Doris Underhill. Uncle Jack, as we children knew him was a well known piper during his early years in Scotland and especially after he came here to settle. He was a bridge inspector and he also worked for L.M. Sage. He homesteaded the property which belongs to Hugh Lewis today.

It was during the early part of the first World War that Jack joined the Calgary Highlanders and was soon sent overseas, returning home after the war. He married in Calgary in 1921 and from this union there were five children: Douglas, Allister, Doris, William and Robert. They are all married and living in Calgary, Edmonton and Toronto.

Jack and Doris Morison moved away from Innisfail during the 1920's first going to Lacombe, then to Vermillion as bridge and road inspector. It was in Ponoka that they owned and operated a hardware store for many years before retiring to Edmonton and eventually to Victoria, B.C. Jack Morison passed away February 26, 1969 at the age of 87 years. Doris Morison still resides in Edmonton (1973).

George Morison: He was born in Scotland in 1885. He was thirteen years of age when he arrived in Innisfail in 1898. He had not finished his education in Scotland, and as there was no school close enough in this area, Grandpa taught him at home. He joined the army in 1915 and served overseas. Not long after, he was badly injured. When the army ambulance was sent out to pick up the injured, Uncle George was missed. Possibly, an act of God, that he was missed. The vehicle and its' occupants were demolished enroute to the First Aid Station. Meanwhile, back in the trenches, as a last hope of survival, he amputated his own limb. He was the sole survivor of his platoon. After spending a year in hospital in Wales, later in Liverpool, England he underwent a series of operations and was fitted with an artificial leg.

He returned home to the farm where Grandma still remained only to find he couldn't manage the farm work under such conditions. The farm was sold and he and Grandma returned to Liverpool, England where Elizabeth Pogue was waiting for them. She had nursed Uncle George at the hospital until he returned to Canada. George and Elizabeth were married at Liverpool. They then returned to Innisfail.

At this time, Carl Sick and George Morison opened up a vulcanizing shop across the street from where the old Canadian Legion stands. Aunt Lizzie opened up a nursing home in her own home. Her main purpose was to accommodate maternity patients. Everyone who met and knew Lizzie, became fond of this kind and generous woman.

Later they moved to Edmonton where George operated the elevator in the Legislative Building for many years. Aunt Lizzie passed away in 1935 in Edmonton. They had no children. George remained in Edmonton and in about 1944 he married Pearl Grant, who had also been raised in the Innisfail area.

In his early life, George was a very accurate marksman and was chosen to be on the team the year they won the Bisley Award. He was an ardent hunter. He amazed me when I was a child as to how easily he could get around and was of such a happy nature.

He and his wife Pearl, spent their remaining years in retirement in Victoria, B.C. George Morison passed away in the spring of 1969 and Pearl Morison in September, 1971.

William Morison, my father, was born at Port Ellen, Scotland, January 19, 1880. He came with his parents to the Innisfail district in 1898.

My mother, Ethel Watt, was born at Souris, Manitoba on February 23, 1888 and came with her parents to this district in 1900.

They were united in marriage at the Presbyterian Manse, Penhold, December 8, 1909 with Rev.

Gosling officiating. Their attendants were: Will Watt and Mina Bratton. From this union a family of eleven children were born.

Dad filed the homestead papers on his quarter in 1902. The land location was S.W. quarter of 24-36-1-5. A house was erected the fall of 1909.

In the early years, Dad worked for L.M. Sage and later was foreman when many of the roads were being developed through out the area. Still later, he turned mostly to mixed farming. They farmed the section no. 13, for many years.

There were good times and sad times. Mom and Dad's first house burned down in June, 1912. A second house was erected that same summer near the original site by volunteer labor from neighbors and relatives. Dad served as trustee on the Big Bend school board for many years. He raised and trained his own sheep dogs that saved him miles of walking. He was a good gardener and loved all flowers and shrubs. His favorite flowers were gladiolus and roses.

Politics played a big part during dad's life and there were many lengthy discussions concerning the political issues of the day. Just before the last Provincial election, Rev. Rhoad went to visit them. Rev. Rhoad said he was glad he had gone as Dad was very informative as to Government policies etc. and that he surely knew what party he should not vote for.

He was known to be a very strict parent, but also a very kind hearted one. He always took time to play games with the children when the chores were done. Horseshoe pitching was one of his favorite games. Nearly every Sunday he and Mr. Lennox enjoyed a game. They played till after dark on many nights and as there was no power, a lantern was hung on a tree near the pit and a piece of white paper stuck over the top of the peg. Of course, the paper had to be renewed many times during the evening, but the game went on.

My Mom, as I remember had very little spare time with such a large family to care for. There was always the weekly washing and ironing, which seemed to last from the early morning until supper. The washing machine I remember had a big wheel on top and a handle you had to pump back and forth to run the plunger. The harder you pumped the cleaner the wash. Mom helped with the garden and when the children were still young had to help with the chores.

After the second World War broke out, we children going to school had to knit squares for quilts to be sent overseas. These blocks would be the worst shapes when we went to bed at night. Somehow overnight, they would take on a new look. In the morning they would all be nicely pressed and square once again, just waiting for us to pick up and take to school. Although Mom never said, she must have put her time into those blocks too, long after we were in bed.

In those days, we still used the threshing machine. Mom had to cook for the crew. With no modern conveniences, this was a task, plus she always made her own bread and butter. I remember the cream was kept down in an old dug well, no longer used for

water. The container was raised and lowered by a rope.

Mr. Lennox spent many Sundays at our place over the years, he often remarked that if you wanted to have a good time, a game of horseshoes and a good meal, just spend some time at William Morisons'.

I recall that years later, after we had all left home that in the winter Mother would always put a heated rock in our beds so that it would be warm upon retiring. Some of our closest neighbors in the early days were: G. Duncan, Tom and Bill Bennett the Schicklers, Jack Scott, Aldens', Eagles', Sullivans' Moores', Batemans', Munro's and Oscar Watts'. Over the years, the folks raised purebred cattle, sheep and swine. They showed at various exhibitions. We children were involved in Calf Clubs, took part in school track meets, fairs etc. I suppose we won our share of ribbons and medals.

The children all married and are scattered through British Columbia and Central Alberta. Of the eleven children, two have passed on: George Bertram on June 21, 1912 at the age of six months, and William James, died January 5, 1971 at the age of sixty years:

The children of William and Ethel Morison are as follows:

William James who married Elizabeth Huntly (Betty). They have two children: George and Gordon. Betty resides in Innisfail.

John Alexander: married Margaret Bull and resides at Kevissville. They have three children: Irene (Mrs. J. McLerie), Robert and Kenneth.

Charlotte Helen married R.W. Roper and later J. Barton and resides at Hope B.C. She has two children: William and Donald.

Robert Gordon who married Myrtle Walker and reside at Chilliwack, B.C. They have one daughter Maxine (Mrs. C. Gadsden).

Colin McLeod who married Bernice Kowalski and reside at Valemount, B.C. They have two children: Alan and Ethel.

Ethel Mary Elizabeth who married Allen Bateman and reside at Innisfail. They have four children: Shirley (Mrs. R. Richards), Carol (Mrs. D. Curtice), Joy and Thomas.

Allan Murray who married Doreen Olson and resides in Innisfail. They have five children: Greg and Garth (twins), Heather (Mrs. Whiting), James and Molly.

Ronald Bruce who married Valarie Muttart and reside at Richmond, B.C. They have six children: Gary, Barbra, Douglas, Colleen, Kathleen and Marianne.

Margaret Merna who married C.A. Wrightson and reside at Didsbury. They have five children: Patricia, Bruce, Diane, Colin and Cathy (twins).

Bertha Doreen who married J. Popovich and resides in Innisfail. We have two children Richard and Kathryn.

My Dad and Mom lived out on the original homestead until June, 1972 (62 years). Dad then went to the Red Deer Nursing Home, June 26, 1972. Mom is a guest at the Autumn Glen Lodge. They

celebrated their diamond Wedding Anniversary with all the children home in 1970. Dad lived a long, healthy life. He passed away Feb. 8th after being admitted to a hospital for the first time in his life. He lived to the grand age of 93 years. In February, 1973, Mom celebrated her 85th birthday.

To these two great people, we owe so much. We had good times, sad times, hardships and victories, and through their efforts, we all have a better country to live in today.

THE MORKEBERG FAMILY OF MARKERVILLE by the Morkeberg Girls

Dan Morkeberg was born in Denmark in 1870. After finishing school he apprenticed in the creamery business. He then served in the Danish Military Service. Being a tall man he was put into the Royal Guards and served for two years.

Dan immigrated to the United States in 1890 and was to remain there until 1896. Dan's brother Holger arrived from Denmark that year and they were bitten by the gold fever bug and decided to come North. They were never to arrive in the Klondike because en route they had the misfortune of losing some of their horses and most of their supplies. Eventually they decided to settle in Markerville.

Holger who remained single all his life, chose farming, while Dan was to start the Markerville Creamery. Dan planned to stay six weeks, but learned to love life in Markerville and was to stay in the small community until he passed away 65 years later.

The Morkeberg's were surrounded by a community of Icelanders who used to say "The only thing wrong with Dan and Holger was they were not Icelanders."

In 1900 Dan met Hilme Nystrom who immigrated from Sweden. They were married in 1902. Out of this union there were six children; one dying in infancy. Carl, the eldest, is still a resident of Markerville; Margaret (McQuat), Sherwood Park, Alberta; Val (deceased), Beatrice (Johnson) of Red Deer; and Eric of Saskatoon.

During his lifetime Dan won many awards for service to his adopted country. He was elected to the Alberta Legislature in 1917 and served until 1921. In 1924 he was Knighted by the King of Denmark for his contribution to the Dairy Industry. In 1960 he was elected to the Agriculture Hall of Fame. He was a master of the Innisfail Masonic Lodge and Deputy Grand Master of the Masonic Lodge of Alberta. For many years he was Canadian President of the Royal Danish Guard Association.

Carl, our father, took over the Creamery in 1930 after finishing his education. He attended Alberta College and Iowa State University. He met, courted and married Marion Miles in 1930. Marion originally from Nova Scotia was raised in High River. She was a graduate nurse of the Calgary General Hospital. Marion arrived in Innisfail determined to find a tall dark stranger (predicted for her by a tea cup reader) but she met Carl, and because she treated him for an ear problem in the Innisfail Hospital, he she selected! Carl had a hard time courting Marion because she had many admirers and was always out



Marion Morkeberg

Carl Morkeberg

on a date when he went by to see her. His version is that he finally succumbed and that they were married. Carl and Marion had four daughters: Lois (Novikoff) of Sherwood Park, Alberta; Dana (Sumner) of Calgary, (the first two being twins), Dell (Bietz) of Calgary; Val (Osborne) of Red Deer.

Carl and Marion chose a good life but a very busy one. Because of Marion's nurse's training she became the unpaid community nurse, and was available 24 hours a day as a willing and cheerful midwife, minister, doctor, counsellor, or to fulfill any function demanded of her. She helped Carl with his Creamery, fed untold hundreds of people, raised her family and was always available to help. She was a charter member of the Good Neighbours Club, and enjoyed playing baseball in the earlier years. She was referred to by the Innisfail competitors as "Racehorse Bill from Markerville". She was a member and Past Worthy Matron of the Order of the Eastern Star of Innisfail. Marion has a way with words, writes good poetry and is an entertaining speaker. Her good sense of humor and deep religious faith have carried her through these many years.

Carl's decision to stay in Markerville proved to be a good one, for he has always been a very happy man and has no regrets about living in Markerville. He has been a good friend to any of his acquaintances who have taken the time to visit him and Marion at their home. He has gone out of his way to spread happiness in the Markerville area and a testimonial to his fortune is the large group of people who know him. It is a great afternoon and evening of entertainment to take a tour with Carl to Benalto, Sylvan Lake and Caroline to see the many different characters who come up to him to make sure they say "hello". Until recently Carl took along his "disciples" namely; Jack Darling, John Christvinson and Harry Haddersly on these trips. They certainly became well known and nobody misses these tours more than Carl. Jack Darling was the best man at Carl and Marion's wedding and lived across the road from them for many years and has come to mean a great deal to the four Morkeberg girls. He now lives in Innisfail.

Although Carl was extremely busy running the Creamery, he found the time to do many things. Some of them being a member of the Masonic Lodge and the Scottish Right, Past Patron of the Order of the

Eastern Star, Honorary Member of the Danish Guards . . . and becoming a very accomplished banjo player and member of many bands in the area. He was and is an outstanding and sought after "Master of Ceremonies". He canvassed hard for the church and made many donations to the church and the community from the Markerville Creamery. Carl's greatest claim to fame is that he is the self-appointed "Night Mayor of Markerville".

As many of you know we were very proud of our father when he put down in writing and print the history of Markerville, which was run as a weekly serial in the Innisfail Province during 1967 and 1968. One of our happy memories is the recent retirement party which was held in Carl's and Marion's honor in 1972 and which was put on by the community in which they have happily lived for more than 40 years.

BERT MORRALL by Bert Morrall

He was born in Shropshire, England in 1893. A friend of the family, Jack Batt, had settled on the Red Deer River east of Huxley and offered a job to Bert. He arrived at Innisfail on April 15, 1911, stayed the night at the old Alberta Hotel, operated then by Frank Duck, and took the stage next morning to Huxley. He left Innisfail at 8 a.m.; they changed horses at Milnerton at Joe Sergeants, and arrived at Runion's restaurant and stopping place. Bert stayed with Amos overnight and was met there next day by Jack Batt. He stayed at the job one year and returned to Innisfail in the spring of 1912 and worked for Bill Champ almost to the time of enlistment in June 1915. He has recollections of Innisfail before World War I as a very alive, and good market town, blessed with two outstanding general stores — G.W. West's and Hodges. G.W. West grub-staked homesteaders and settlers fifty miles east of Innisfail and the same distance west. There was a butcher shop, lumber yard and grain elevator, all connected with the store. Roads were so bad that neighbors went together when going to town for supplies, and bachelors often 'made a week of it'. When trading was finished they would visit with friends in the Royal pub. Sometimes it was hard to get some of them sober to go home and they would be thrown in the wagon to wake up along the way.

Bert enlisted along with Cecil McArthur and they were together until Cecil was killed Nov. 17, 1917 at Cambrai. They joined the 12th C.M.R.S., trained at Sarcee for two months and left on draft Aug. 19, 1915 to the Fort Garry Horse in Shorncliffe, England. They went to France Feb. 1916, first under fire July 1st on the Somme. Bert spent three years in France and Belgium, was wounded at Cambrai Nov. 1917 and received the D.C.M.

Bert returned to Innisfail in 1919 and received a loan from the Soldier Settlement Board with which he bought the Dave Ennis farm, 3-1/2 miles SE of Innisfail. He farmed here until 1946 when he sold out in the fall and bought land from Earl Adams south of the town, part of it being the old Cooke homestead

(Perry's people). In 1947 Bert married Dora Rasmussen, who was raised and went to school in Bowden. Her people still live on the farm west of Bowden. The Morralls moved into Innisfail in 1970 and are enjoying retirement.

Their first neighbors were Bowes, Champs, Noble and Matilda Potter, Bob Shanks, and Howards. They had many enjoyable times in homes and schoolhouses with the music of Jack Batt on the banjo and Johnny Hill on the fiddle.

Bert remembers one time when he was hauling hay and had to cross a creek. The banks were thawing and the front wheels of the wagon got stuck in the bank. So he unhooked the team and went home and next morning brought a chain to pull the wagon out. At that moment Jack Varty and Duncan Marshall, then Minister of Agriculture, drove up. They had been out the night before electioneering. Mr. Marshall told Bert, "You'd better vote for me and I'll build a bridge here." Politics haven't changed much.

THE MORRIS STORY by Edith Morris

My father, John Cormell Morris was born in Mill Farm, Gloucester, England. Mother was the former Mary Augusta Cole and was born at Sandfield Farm, Gloucester, England. They were married in England on November 25, 1885. All the children were born in England: Charles Roland, who married Frances Hall. They have 5 children. They farmed at Innisfail. Ernest John, who married Roberta Morton. They have two children. They farmed at Innisfail. Robert Henry, who married Agnes Campbell. No children. They farm at Innisfail. Ada Mary, who married Bernard Parsonage. They have three children. They farmed at Innisfail. Edith Marion, single. Eva Marie, who married Albert Powell. They have two children and reside in Calgary.

Father developed asthma and was told by a doctor to leave England and it would give him another twelve years to live. They decided to try Canada. Father had farmed in England, so he did not think it would be too difficult elsewhere.

The whole family arrived in Saskatchewan in 1906. We did not like it there as we missed the trees, and perhaps we were a little home sick. Dad and Jack decided to look over land in Alberta and bought land from Mr. Winston just north of Innisfail. There was a house already there. So, one month later, Mother and the rest of the family arrived.

Some of the young men of the district heard there were girls to arrive so on the Innisfail station platform was Herman Barkemeyer and some of his young friends to look us over.

Upon arriving at the farm, our first caller was Heslam Marshall and he was to be one of our neighbors. Other neighbors were Coopers, Gardener-Smith, Barkemeyers and Friezens'.

Dad bought machinery from J.T. Roger & Briggs. I remember Eva getting a pair of shoes from Fumer-ton.

We three girls started school at Westholm. The boys had completed their education in England. Our school-mates were the Kennings, Whitesides,

Walfords and Farr's. Our teacher was Mr. Baycroft who would arrive in a buggy and horse. We walked one and one-half miles to school. Other young people I remember are Milton Oxtoby and Dolly Bowe.

Mother was afraid of Indians and they often camped on the hills close to us. One time, she was feeding chickens and looked up and there was an Indian with a feather headdress and poor Mother was frightened beyond words. Another time there was a dead Bob-Cat in our yard and two Indian women came and picked it up for the hide. These Indians were really friendly and Roland used to visit with them.

Father passed away in 1913, but Mother being a good business woman carried on. Her home was always open house to all the young people and many young men out here from England found a home at our house.

Mother spent her leisure hours playing the piano or sketching. She was very good at both.

Jack enlisted and went to the First World War.

In 1951, my nephew, Artie, came and lived with me (Edith) and we lived on the home place, until 1967 when I moved to Innisfail. Artie still farms the original farm.

I would like to pay a tribute to Drs. Wagner and Turner who did so much for so many.

I have enjoyed Alberta and of course, Innisfail. I have been most fortunate in being able to travel to England, California and to Hawaii, and Victoria.

Mrs. Mary Augustus Morris passed away in 1951.

THE MORTON STORY by Mrs. Marion Wagers & Mrs. Maude Handford.

Mr. Tom Morton was born in Scotland in 1865. His wife was also born there in 1862. They were married in 1889.

Mr. Morton had been a grocer before coming to Canada to take up a homestead. He was accompanied to this new land by his wife and five children. They first homesteaded in Saskatchewan. Here another daughter was born. He proved up on the land and then moved to the Grahamston district east of Innisfail in 1905. Here, the children attended school. The teacher was Miss Stevens and Marion attended school with the Cameron and Burns' children. Mrs. Morton became ill and Marion had to stay at home at a very young age (11 years) to look after the family. In time they sold their farm in Grahamston to Mr. Gordon and moved to the Horse Shoe Lake district where they carried on farming for a number of years. . . . doing all their farming with horses. They moved to what is now the Jackson farm, then owned by Doc Holmes. It was here that Mrs. Morton died in 1913.

Children to Mr. and Mrs. Tom Morton were:

Marion, born in 1893 in Scotland. She worked for George Davidsons' prior to her marriage to Lester O. Wagers. They had 9 children. See Wagers story.

Margaret, born in 1894 in Scotland. She worked for H.L. Christie before moving to Edmonton and marrying Harry Cuthbertson. Harry was killed in W.W.II. They have 2 children Jessie and Marion.

Dave and Jessie were twins born in 1895 in Scotland. Jessie died as a young woman unmarried. Dave served in W.W.I, returning home to farm in the Westholm district. He married Annie Perrott and they have seven children: Russell, Tom (killed in W.W.II), Bill, Dolly, Mary, Fred and Harry. Harry farms the home place now.

Tom, born in 1897 in Scotland. He served in W.W.I, returned getting land through the Soldier Settlement in the Antler Hill District. He married Mary Pickford and they have 4 children: Jessie, Helen, Edward and Chrissie.

Roberta, born in 1901 in Saskatchewan, married Jack Morris. He served in W.W.I and returned to farm in the Westholm district. They have two children: Douglas and Margaret. Jack died in 1961. Douglas now farms his father's land.

As a family growing up, there was large gardens to feed the family and much wild game available to assist in the feeding of the family.

Mr. Morton passed away at Enderby, B.C. in 1947.

LOUIS MUMFORD STORY by Bert Lalor

Mr. and Mrs. L. Mumford arrived in the Innisfail district in the early 1890's. They came from Nova Scotia and settled in the Aberdeen District. The family consisted of Edna and Amelia (Millie). The homestead they settled on was N.W. 32-35-27-4. Mr. Bill Kennedy is on this land at present.

Mr. Mumford was one of the first to serve on the Board of Trustees of the Aberdeen school. Edna, the eldest daughter married Bob Earl, a farmer and teacher. It is believed the Earls, (Bob and his father) built the first Aberdeen school. They later left the district moving to Olds where they resided some time, then moved to Calgary and from there the trail is lost.



Mrs. L. S. Mumford

Millie, the younger girl left the farm to go to work in Morley. There she met and married Joseph Apow. He was employed at the Industrial school west of Red Deer, teaching the boys at this Indian school, blacksmithing, carpentering and gardening. He was a treaty Indian and Millie became a white treaty woman. Later, Millie was widowed and in 1910 married a resident of Saddle Lake, James Steinhaur.

He was a farmer, business man and missionary in the district. Millie passed away in 1933 and her husband died in 1969. One of her daughters and Louis Mumfords' granddaughters is Mrs. Tom (Mae) Bouvette) who now lives and farms in the Raven district.

Mr. and Mrs. L. Mumford were foster parents to Joe Thompson, a brother of Clem Thompson. The Mumfords left the district in 1903 and moved to Banff where Louis became a game warden until his retirement. They have both passed on and are interred in the Banff Cemetery.

ANDREW MUNDIE FAMILY by Nellie Douglas & Naida Mundie

Mr. Andrew Buchan Mundie first came to Canada in 1910 to Summerland, B.C. where he worked on a ranch. Later he bought a farm near Cochrane, Alta. When the war started in 1914, he sold his farm and joined the Royal Canadian Regiment Engineers. He was a driver of a shell wagon team from the depot to the front lines and also spent time in the trenches in France

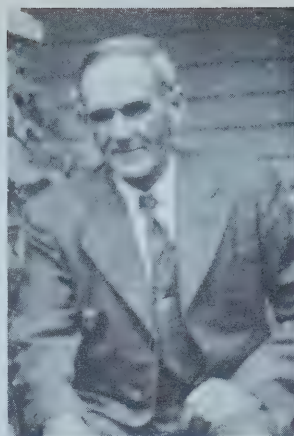
In the spring of 1919 he returned to Canada and to the Innisfail area where he settled in the K.H.V. district on the farm which he bought from Jim Steadman. The Shavers and Mr. Black lived with Mr. Mundie.

In the summer of 1921 he married the former Miss Mildred Riley of Kingston, Ont. Mrs. Mundie, who was born in Kingston July 20, 1900, came to Olds to visit her sister Mrs. Aylesworth. She then attended the Olds Agricultural College and graduated in the second class in Home Economic. In the spring of 1921 she came to the Steadman district to teach school, boarding with Mr. Martin Gordon and his sister Miss Gordon (the late Mrs. Fetterly).

Times were hard in the 1920's. Andy owned the first stationary engine so that many of the neighbors came with their grain to get it ground. Many good visits and cups of coffee were enjoyed. One of the first threshing machines and engine was bought by Andy and he did threshing for many people of the area for long years.

Mr. Mundie was a member of the R.D.School Div.Board for many years and also was on the local Steadman school board. He was one of the charter members of the K.H.V. Agricultural Society and a member of the Innisfail Legion since the year 1919. Andy was also a member of the Innisfail Masonic Lodge. His keen interest in Hereford cattle showed up in the fine herd he owned. He was vice-president of the Central Alberta Hereford Club in 1952, the year of his death.

After the death of her husband, Mrs. Mundie decided to further her education, so in the fall of 1953 she enrolled at the U. of A. in the faculty of Home Economics and after graduation taught H.Ec. in Red Deer Central Jr. High School. She had started the school term when she suddenly passed away on Sept. 9, 1961. Both Mr. & Mrs. Mundie are buried in Innisfail.



Mr. A. B. Mundie



Mrs. A. B. Mundie

The Mundies had three children:

Helen (Nellie), who is now Mrs. Gordon Douglas of Penhold; three daughters: Margaret — Mrs. Dale Walker, Red Deer Jeanne — Mrs. Bob Weich, Calgary Susan — at home.

Jean, a teacher, who is Mrs. Joe Close of Dixonville, Alta.; children: Brian, John, Bob and Patricia, all at home.

John (Jack), who is still living in the K.H.V. district on the family farm Valley Crescent Hereford Ranch; married Naida Smith four children: Andrew, Heather, Barbara and Keith, all at home.

WILLIAM MURDOCK MUNRO by Pearl Irene (Munro) Park

William Murdock Munro married Catherine Simpson Hutchins on June 24, 1885 in Lachute, Quebec. They lived on a farm near Arundle, Quebec, in a valley near the Laurentian Mountains. In the winter Mr. Munro worked with a logging company.

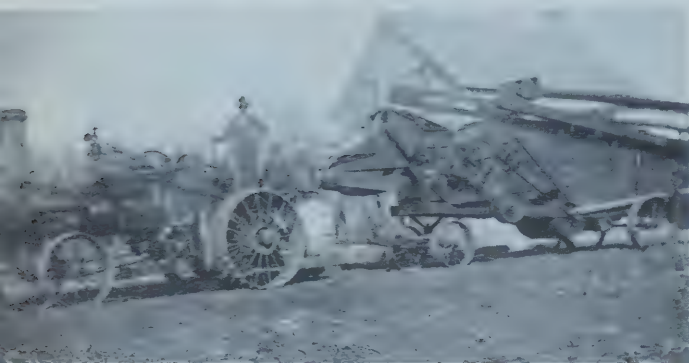
As there was little land available in the east, Mr. Munro thought there would be a better future for farming and raising livestock and children in the west, so in 1904 he came to the Big Bend district and filed on a homestead and bought a farm from Bill Brown's



Mr. and Mrs. Munro taken June 24, 1910.



The kind of freighters that stopped at Munro's.



Fred Munro ready to start fall work.

father which had a log house. He returned to Quebec and in March 1905 brought his family — wife, six sons and two daughters — along with machinery, stock, and household furniture. The trip took two weeks. When they arrived in Innisfail (by train) they stayed overnight in the Royal Hotel and the next morning with team and wagon drove out to take all their stock and belongings to their farm.

It was quite an experience crossing the Red Deer River. The water was high and several times they were afraid the wagon was going to float away, but they got everything across. They had a good supply of food and clothing with them and were not short of cash to carry on. In 1908 Dad built a new house with plastered walls.

Their home offered hospitality plus — it was a stopping place especially for the Icelanders who would arrive for supper and stay the night and the next morning go on to town or back home. No one ever came without getting a meal.

The children attended Big Bend School; Mr. Munro was a trustee; and picnics, houseparties,



Munro Family: Douglas, John, Leslie, Fred, Harold, Pearl, Clarence, Hubert, Maggie.

skating on the big slough or the river even in 40° below weather was enjoyed by all.

I can remember when Dad bought two range steers at Conn's and put them in the barn with yokes on for a couple of days. He then tied ropes to the yokes and let them out and they went in two different directions, but he taught them to drive.

We were raised staunch Methodist; Mother polished all the shoes Saturday night ready for church on Sunday morning.

Wm. M. Munro was born Jan. 1, 1847 and died June 11, 1919. Mrs. Munro was born Jan. 20, 1860 and died July 3, 1939.

Children: Fred Munro — born April 5, 1886, died Nov. 3, 1969; m. Jessie Bateman 1912; Innisfail; 5 children. Clarence Munro — born Jan. 26, 1889, died Aug. 17, 1969; m. Selena Atkinson 1919; Innisfail; 3 children. Hubert Munro — born Dec. 4, 1890, died Oct. 12, 1960; m. Martha Smith 1920; 4 children. Maggie Munro — born Oct. 10, 1892; m. James Gibson of Ireland 1914; 3 ch. Harold Munro — born Feb. 11, 1895, died Oct. 25, 1967; m. Ruth Hetherington; 1 child who was killed in 1958. Leslie Munro — born Dec. 21, 1896; m. Gladys B. Conn 1924; 4 children. Douglas Munro — born Apr. 22, 1898; m. Jane Henley 1939; 4 children; resides in Innisfail. Pearl Munro — born Oct. 8, 1902; m. Rbt. Frank Park 1924; 4 children; resides in Lacombe. (see Park story)

Children of William M. Munro from first marriage to a Miss McNealy: John Munro — born Apr. 15, 1875, died Feb. 1, 1967; a daughter died in infancy; Another son, Willie, born in 1886, remained in Quebec.

JOSEPH MURGATROYD as dictated by his wife, 'Grandma' Murgatroyd, May 1973

Mr. Joseph Murgatroyd, born Halifax, Yorkshire, England — born July 15, 1875.

Elizabeth Ann Sladdin, Born Halifax, Yorkshire, England — August 2, 1874.

Married in 1899; one child, Harold Murgatroyd.

Joseph Murgatroyd was a butcher in England; he and his wife and son emigrated to Canada in 1910 and it was his intention to buy a farm and establish a butcher shop. They sailed from Liverpool to Montreal, travelling second class on the "Corsican", landing May 1, 1910. They arrived four days later by train in Red Deer and were met by the Charles Foulds' family (an uncle and aunt of Mrs. Murgatroyd), and were taken by horse and democrat to the Horn Hill district, 11 miles from Red Deer.

The family moved to Calgary where altogether Joseph spent 7 years butchering. He came to Innisfail in 1916 and butchered in West's Butcher shop for two years; returned to Calgary, and later in April 1918 he returned to Innisfail with his wife and son. In 1920 he bought a farm in the Grahamston district and farmed until his death in 1941. Their first neighbors were the Charles Tolley family, Jack Letchers, Alec MacDonald Sr. and family, Mr. & Mrs. Gordon, and the Fred Hobbs family.

Mrs. Murgatroyd remembers that in 1910 there was snow every month except July; and that month it thundered and lightening and showered continually. The family enjoyed attending dances and school concerts. Joseph played the violin for recreation, and at dances at the country school house.

He was on the Hospital Board for ten years, and was chairman of same for some time. Others on the board at the same time were George Duncan, Reg Bowe.

Son Harold was an organist at a Calgary church at 12 years of age, and went on to relieve at First Baptist Church in Calgary. He was organist at Innisfail United Church for a number of years. Harold married Freda Grace Peel of Calgary. When they left Innisfail for Red Deer, Harold became organist at Gaetz Memorial United Church where his wife directed the choir. They held these positions until Harold's death in 1970.

Grandson, Vernon, acquired his Associate degree in Piano and B. Mus. at the University of Alberta in 1966. Since then he has served in many different musical capacities as teacher, lecturer, composer, accompanist and soloist. One highlight was the broadcast by Radio Station CKUA of one of Vernon's compositions which was played by members of the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra and commissioned by CKUA in commemoration of Canada's Centennial Year (1967).

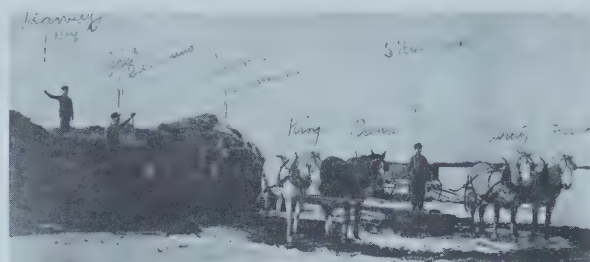
Elizabeth Ann Murgatroyd will celebrate her 99th Birthday on August 2, 1973. She still crochets and scrubs floors.

Joseph Murgatroyd died Nov. 2, 1941 and is buried in Innisfail.

Harold Murgatroyd died August 16, 1970 and is buried in Red Deer.



John Nolan's breaking plow with "wood beam".

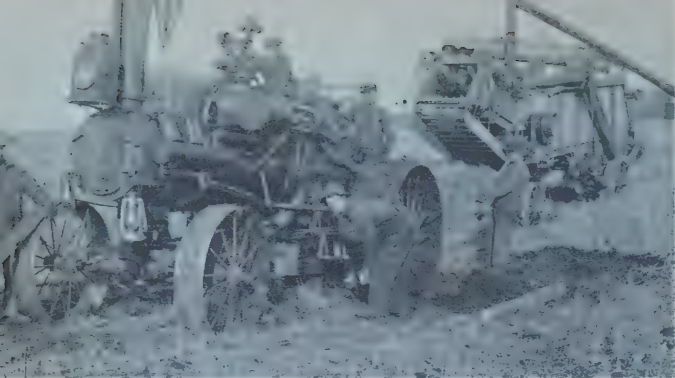


Horse power hay baler in 1909; L. to R.: Harvey Rufert, Jack Cummins, Sam Cummins, Bill Krause. They used one team at a time, changing teams quite often.

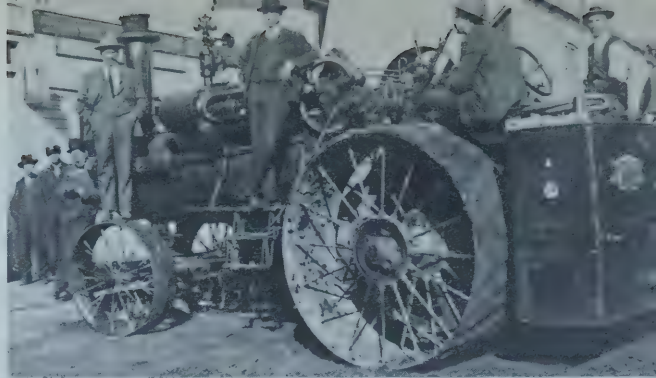
MACHINERY



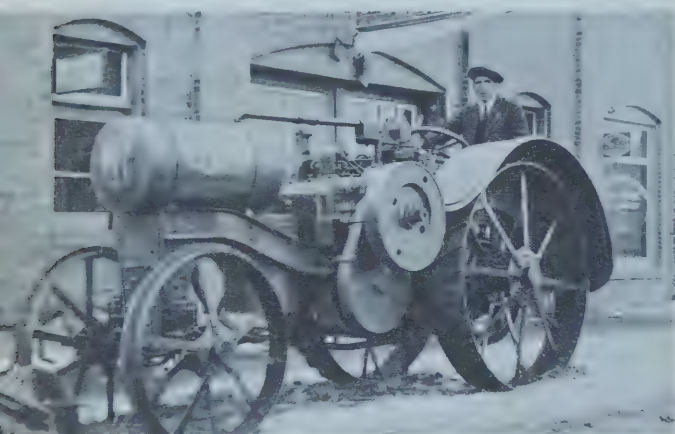
John Brown's threshing outfit (steamer)



Showing one of Bob Smith's Spark Arresters.



"A Case" — Oscar and Will Watt and others.



Titan — with Fred Watkins driving.



George Oxtoby and his Oil Pull with steering pole in front.



Avery Steam engine belonged to Norman Fead.



Machinery display on Main Street, Innisfail around 1909.



In front of J. T. Roger's hardware: Jack Rogers, Brandt, Jack Giolma, Roy Carr; top — Wallace Biggs, Clarence Carr, and Geo. Crow.



Road Grader with Bert Carter

TAKEN FROM OLD NEWSPAPER CLIPPING FOUND BY BRISTOL CENTRE

Jan. 1, 1916

A home for Fatherless and needy children was opened in Innisfail the first of it's kind in Alberta. It is situated on the corner lot facing on Alberta Street and the main street of traffic to the country east of town. Rev. George Wood is the originator and first superintendant. Special reference was made to donations of one half ton of flour each from Robin Hood Mills and P. Burns of Calgary. F.W. Archer, M.L.A. was honorary President, and Dr. A.T. Turner, President. W. Geary was first vice President. Miss Helen Gilmore from Calgary was in charge of the children. (This was later moved to Calgary and known as Wood's Christian Home.)



Calder's binder

FRANCIS MURRAY by F.G. Murray

Francis Murray was in the Armed forces during the first World War. He was born in Cardston in 1898 and returned there after the war. In 1919 he married Hazel Alberta Eagleson at Warner and came to Innisfail the latter part of 1919 to look for land under the Soldier Settlement Board. He used horses as transportation and was well known for his horsemanship. He farmed and also cleared land with a cutter blade pulled by horses. He stayed at Innisfail until 1927, then moved to Warner, then to Lucky Strike and then to Milk River where he farmed and ran a town dray. In 1940 he went to work for Dench of Canada. In 1941 he broke his neck and after that worked for B.A.Oil for 18 mos., then back to Dench. In 1947 he bought the Rocky Mountain House transport selling it and his farm just prior to passing away in June 1962.

While in Innisfail, Dad played hardball with the Aberdeen Ball Club. I well remember how he used to laugh about himself and his fellow hunters as they used to have a stove they could push a long tree through the door and as it burned down just kept pushing it in the stove, not having to cut it up.

The most exciting story about our family: a Mormon wagon train came upon another wagon train that the Indians had burned up. My grandmother, 5 years old, and another boy who died three months later, were the only living survivors of the train. The Mormon people took her in and raised her until she married George Murray.

Francis Murray is buried in Red Deer; he died in June 1962. His wife Hazel died in January 1971 and is buried in Lethbridge. They had four children:

Elsie Lillian Murray — born at Innisfail July 1920; married John Stotz; 3 boys.

Frank George Murray — born at Innisfail in Mrs. Bill Daines home Dec. 8, 1922; m. — 2 children: Rodney, Gail; m. Anne Harrett Hollingsworth, 5 children; lives at Medicine Valley Acres, Sylvan Lake.

Isabell — born at Innisfail Hospital 1924; m. Clarence Livingston in 1939; 3 children.

Chuck — born at Warner 1926; married with 8 children.

JACKSON NEWSHAM by Harold Newsham

Jackson Newsham was born of factory parents on Dec. 23, 1872 in the village of Sir Titus Salt, Yorkshire, England. Before coming to Canada in 1898 he was employed as a postal and telegraph clerk in the Manchester Central Post Office. Before that time he worked in a factory in Sir Titus Salt from age 10 to 13. He married Mary Lister on Sept. 24, 1895. The daughter of a boot shop manager, born Feb. 21, 1871, she worked as a cotton winder in the local factory. She is remembered as a quiet, kind woman, a very hard worker who spent most of her time caring for her seven sons. She was very interested in church work and loved to go to missionary meetings.

Jackson saw no future in the post office so sought adventure in Canada. He arrived in Innisfail April 6, 1898 and worked to gather a bit of material goods

before being joined by his family. He was offered the station agent's job on arrival but chose to homestead on section 28. A year later his wife Mary and infant son Arthur, his parents — James and Jane Newsham, and his two brothers — Arthur and wife Frances and Herbert and wife Ruth arrived.

In 1902 he took out a homestead on NE 36-35-2-5 and called it Wyresdale Farm.

The following is a quote from a letter Jackson wrote in 1929: "At the time of my first homestead entry in 1902, I possessed 6 cows, 2 horses, a wagon, a few crude implements, a sound physique, abundant optimism, and unbounded ambition, but only a modicum of farming knowledge. The conditions surrounding the pioneer of that day were a complete negation of all the conditions met with by the settler of today — no habitation, no ploughed or cleared land, no fences, no roads, no bridges, no telephones, no banks, no credit or helpful Land Settlement Boards . . . It can however, truly be said the primary essentials of existence — food, fuel, and shelter, although simple, were never absent."

Jackson's first chair for his homestead cabin was a log. His second chair was bought with a load of lumber and is still to be found in the Alan Newsham residence.



Mr. and Mrs. Jackson Newsham, taken July 24, 1928 at their farm home.

Herds of elk could be seen just east of the Newsham homestead in the early 1900's. Bears were often seen — if the dog smelled a bear, he ran for home and so did the boys. Garter snakes were almost a plague about 1910; they came out in droves along the bank of the Little Red Deer in the spring.

Jackson's mother was the midwife for the area and the last baby she delivered was Mrs. Susan Zumm-walt (nee Laird).

The flood of 1915 was the worst it's ever been. The Great West Logging Co. was moving logs at the time and logs were later found almost to Red Deer; the river at one point was a mile wide and it took out the bridge west of Cottonwood Store. Jackson often worked out driving logs on the river for cash as well as cutting wood with his sons to sell. They sold cream — during the first World War they milked 30 cows.

One day in the summer of 1914, when the sons of Jackson were working breaking land with the horses,

a memorable hailstorm broke loose. They were one mile from home so took refuge under a brush pile. Ewan, who was barefoot at the time, could hardly manage to walk home as the ground was covered with hail stones. Periodically he had to warm his feet by standing on a wire and hanging on to a fence post.

Neighbors got together and built a school in 1904 on land donated by Dan Sylva. The lumber was sawed by a local mill and came from spruce timber in the nearby woods. Dan Sylva and Robert Speers chose the name "Oklahoma" because they were the original settlers west of the river and had migrated from that state. They often told of how Oklahoma state was settled: they lined up at the border, a gun was fired and everyone grabbed land and then guarded it with a gun. The first trustees were Dan Sylva and Wm. Robertson. R.D. Speers was secretary and when he returned to the U.S. a short time later, Jackson Newsham became secretary and kept the position until 1921. Bitter rivalry appeared when a new group of trustees were elected and tried to scrap the name Oklahoma and obtained consent from the Minister of Education to change it to "Two Rivers". The following year the original trustees were elected and promptly changed it back to "Oklahoma".

All the boys attended and gained their education at this school. Higher grades were not attained as the boys were needed for work at home. They usually missed two weeks in the spring because of the river breaking up. When they could, they crossed the river in a boat, taking Miss Campbell with them when she taught there.

The early settlers visited among themselves often and the R.C.M.P. from Innisfail used to ride out and check on each family periodically to see that all was well.

Jackson Newsham was Police Magistrate in Innisfail for a few years and secretary of the United Grain Growers for many years.

Children of Jackson and Mary Newsham:

Arthur Newsham — bachelor; Innisfail; Ewan Newsham — m. Margaret Bell; Innisfail, 3 children: Shirley m. Jim Wilford, Calgary, 4 ch.; Raymond m. Lavona Einarson, Calgary, 3 ch.; Iris m. Elmer Craig, Red Deer, 3 ch.; Cecil Newsham — m. Mary Horn Kelowna, B.C. (Mary dec. 1966) m. Elaine Olsen 1967; 2 children: Gerald m. Buelah Walrod, Calgary, 3 ch.; Charmalee m. George Seaton, Vancouver, 2 ch. Harold Newsham Innisfail, m. Mary Anne Davies; 2 children: Claude m. Eileen La Rose, Innisfail, 3 ch. Eva m. Kent Pedersen, Calgary, 2 ch. Alan Newsham — m. Mary Niddrie, Innisfail, 4 children: Cyril m. Ruby Parkins, 2 ch.; Doreen m. Orest Curniski, 1 ch.; Hilda m. Don Franks, 1 ch.; Dale. Luther Newsham m. Elizabeth Davies, Innisfail, 6 children; Miar m. Rev. John Davidson, Stettler, 3 ch.; Glyn m. Sue Harrison, Brantford, 2 ch.; Elgar m. Phyllis Weiss, Innisfail, 2 ch.; Lois, dec.; Ivor m. Ruth Patterson, Mich.; Donald. Fred Newsham m. Florence Strubble, Port Moody, B.C.; 4 children: David m. Mary Snyder, S. Carolina, 1 ch.; Albert married in New

Zealand, 1 ch.; Ronald; Gary m. Dorothy Fuller, Vancouver, 1 ch.

Interred in Innisfail Cemetery:

James Newsham (Sept. 6, 1839 - Dec. 6, 1923); Jane Newsham (Mar. 28, 1836 - Mar. 27, 1907); Jackson Newsham (Dec. 23, 1872 - May 12, 1955); Mary Newsham (Feb. 21, 1871 - Nov. 20, 1932).

CHARLES NEWTON by Harry Newton

Charles Newton was born in Lincolnshire, England, on July 12, 1877. His mother died while he was a baby, and when his father died, he quit school to work on their farm and support the family. In 1903, along with his older brother William, he went to Taber, Iowa, where he worked on a farm and William went into partnership with Allison Stevenett. In March 1905, they came to Innisfail with other settlers; Charles rode the freight train to care for their livestock. William settled in Lacombe while Charles worked for Mr. Podratz on the farm adjoining the land that Allison Stevenett had purchased in the Antler Hill District.

In 1906, Charles joined the LaMarsh threshing outfit and during the hard winter of 1906-07, he worked for Tom Dallas, hauling feed for the stock. In March 1907, he bought the Penney homestead in the Antler Hill district. As well as farming, he hauled cream twice a week to Innisfail and during the winter, he hauled coal from the Delburne mines.

On Jan. 16, 1911, he married Sarah Niblock McAllister, eldest daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Ephraim McAllister. Sarah, born June 23, 1892, was the first white child to be born south of Penhold in the Antler Hill district. Mr. Newton was a trustee on the Antler Hill school board for several years; and when a member of the council for the M.D. of Arthur, helped to get more serviceable roads built in his area. He built up a herd of purebred Shorthorn dual purpose cattle.



Mr. and Mrs. Charles Newton with children Harry, Eveline, Kay; in background is Harry Ching who batched with C. Newton in 1906-07.

and took pride in exhibiting them at Lacombe and Calgary stock shows and sales. Mr. & Mrs. Newton were members of the Innisfail Presbyterian and later, United Churches and honorary members of the Canadian Legion. Charles was still farming until a long illness preceded his death on Dec. 5, 1945. Mrs. Newton moved into Innisfail in 1952 and lived there until her death in March 23, 1961.

Their family consisted of:

Charles Henry (Harry), born Jan. 22, 1912 who married Bessie Hilditch in 1943. They farm near Penhold.

Eveleine Esther, born May 17, 1914; married Tom Dewar. A registered nurse, she nursed at St. Bellevue Hospital during the second world war; now lives in Calgary.

Dorothy Mary, born Feb. 1, 1916; married Lester Thompson January 1937. They farm in the Grahamston district.

Annie Patricia, born March 17, 1918, married William Hill in November 1936. They farm in the Aberdeen district.

Arthur John, born Aug. 25, 1919; joined the Calgary Tanks in 1941 serving until the end of the war. He married Eileen Hodges November 1948, and they farm in the Grahamston district.

Richard Lester, born Jan. 3, 1923, married Marie Parsonage in Aug. 1952. They farm the original Newton farm.

Reginald Edgar, born March 1, 1925; served in the Royal Canadian Navy 1943 to 1945. In July 1951, he married Elsie Schowalter and they farm near Penhold. Reg has been Mayor of Penhold for several years.

Violet Sarah, born Feb. 5, 1929, Married Lloyd Traptow in August 1953. She is a stenographer and they live in Calgary.

Kathleen Margaret, born August 26, 1932, taught school prior to her marriage to Cliff Munro in 1956. They farm west of Innisfail in the Big Bend district.

NIBLOCK HISTORY by Ethel Niblock Daines and the Niblock Family

William Niblock and his brother Robert were born in Newry County Down, Ireland. Robert on March 17, 1858 and William in 1860. They lived on a farm with their parents and five sisters and were comfortably well off. Owning their home and the land. The sisters did beautiful fine hand lace in their leisure time, with no need to work outside the home. However, all this was changed when the Father backed a friend's note at the bank and lost almost everything. The daughters now sold the fine lace for their income for edgings around the Irish Linen's, some of which were dainty handkerchiefs. The two sons Robert and William accompanied by their Father (whose health now was impaired by an almost broken heart because of present circumstances) left their homeland in 1875 and set out for Canada. During the long journey the Father became sick unto death and was buried at sea. The two young sons Robert 17, and William 15 years of age went to Buffalo, N.Y., then to Hamilton, Ontario where they

worked on a dairy farm for several years. Later they came West and worked in a logging camp at Donald B.C. They worked there for some time and found it a rough life. William suffered a bad injury to his back by a greenhorn felling a tree the wrong way and the big timber knocking him down and pinning him beneath. He had to lay there until the greenhorn went to camp to get the logging crew to help lift the tree off of him. William also worked on the railroad as it was coming through.

About 1885-1889, they came to Calgary, then North to what is known the Penhold district to file on homestead land. In order to do this they had to be at the Administration office in Calgary early on a Monday morning. William set out by horse back in time to arrive there early and was sitting on the steps waiting for the doors to open to file his homestead, later to become the home of his nephew John McAllister (His sister Mary's son. She had come out from Ireland to be with her brothers and to keep house. She arrived on the first train to run North from Calgary. Mary met and married Ephriam McAllister in 1891). William remained on this same homestead for several years, becoming endeared to his sisters' children. Later he bought his brother Roberts' homestead, who in turn bought a homestead in the Hill End District.

Calgary was the nearest shopping center. The neighbors took turns going for supplies, the trip would take them a week, depending on the weather. A few of these neighbors were Harrisons, Greens, Gardners, Whitesides, Springgays, Fields, Douglas' Doanes and Quantz. After a time their town was Innisfail.

Williams' interest in farming was mostly in livestock. He milked cows and took great pride in the butter he made trading it for groceries at Curry Brothers and G.W. West's store. He was very fond of his horses and raised Clydesdales, had a French Coach horse, one pair of Hackney's, and some Buckskins for color; some of these he bought from a rancher in Cochrane. Many were the homesteaders who found their way to Bill Niblocks' log cabin and were helped on their way, the better for a meal of biscuits, porridge, potatoe pancakes etc. Many Indians used to call for handouts; this time pointing and exclaiming in their native tongue to a pile of Buck brush where a dead cow lay, having been completely



Mr. and Mrs. William Niblock

covered in a blizzard and now where Bill could see some Prairie chicken and nodding his assent the Indians left to return on ponies with knives and went to work on the cow, stripping the meat off the bones and taking it away with them.

Both William and Robert were members of the Presbyterian Church — their faith brought them through many hardships. These brothers met and married sisters. They were the daughters of Thomas and Agnes Mitchell Wells. They had come to Canada from Scotland. Roberts wife was Agnes, Jessie was Williams' wife who was born June 4th, 1881 in Ontario. Their Mother died in London, Ontario Feb. 2, 1887. The Father had arrived with his family in the Hill End District in 1891.

William brought Jessie home as his bride March 15, 1906 to his two room log cabin with the sod roof where the following year Dr. George came to deliver their first born, Jessie Mitchell. Mrs. Jim Lyons assisted. A frame house was built the next year with the finest lumber that could be had, complete with lighting rods and a barn. As time went on six more children were born to this union. Dr. Wagner officiated. Hazel, the youngest being born in the old hospital. Mrs. Niblock had gone into town to await the arrival staying with Mrs. Perrie who took in "Ladies in Waiting" of this sort. The children were all baptized in the home with the Minister coming out and doing two or three together.

The winters were hard, but preparation was made for them. With cellar full of garden vegetables, the potatoes plowed and picked by the children after school. They would fill the wagon box that was hitched up by team and later backed up to the cellar door to be unloaded. Wheat was ground for flour and porridge meal in 100 pound bags, fruits and meats were canned by Mrs. Niblock. She also raised poultry and many geese were raised and the goose oil was used for home remedies. The coal oil lamps were trimmed early in the day for the early winter evenings.

The families were increasing. New neighbors were in by now. House parties were held in the homes. Dad taught us the heel and toe polka. Relatives got together for Christmas and birthdays; in winter driving by team and bob sleigh with foot warmers and bundled up in heavy robes. The Christmas Concerts at Westholm School were always looked forward to. They always had a beautiful tree from floor to ceiling, always decorated the same with different colored miniature spiral candles, and just before Santa arrived and the last carol sung, the candles were lit, covering the tree from top to bottom showing a shimmering array of different colors. Mr. Wesly Kennings was always the acting Santa Claus, ringing his sleigh bells at the window then entering the school in leaps and bounds carrying his sack of goodies on his back and shouting loudly HO HO HO as he busied himself about the tree. He always told the children about his hazardous journey.

Early recollections of Innisfail were the July 1st Orangemen's Parade followed by the Big Sports Day.

The Woodland Creamery where we took the cream, the hitching post where the horses were tied, and "Wong the Chinaman". He had a happy face, wearing the whitest smock and apron. Dad always took us to dinner at Wongs' and it was served on a white linen table cloth. He had the most delicious ice cream with bits of ice in it. Bacon and eggs with fried potatoes could be bought for 34c.

Unforgettable memories of home. Dad handicapped and crippled kneeling to say his prayers at evening and in the morning by his bedside and always "Grace" at every meal. Out in the yard a pile of split wood where I can see him now with his axe splitting it by hand for the cook stove. Mother, whose hearing was impaired by Scarlet Fever in the early years, loved to sing to we children at the end of a busy day.

Mr. Niblock died at his home, May 15, 1942. He was buried on his Grandson Jacks' birthday, May 18, 1942.

We are all married and living in the area with families of our own and grandchildren, excepting Irene who has helped us all throughout our lives. She makes her home with Mayor and Mrs. L.J. Lewellyn (sister). At the Autumn Glen Lodge, Irene was the assistant Matron for ten years, where Mother was among the first guests.

Mrs. Niblock died at the Innisfail hospital April 21, 1963. Interment beside her husband in the Innisfail Cemetery.

Following is the list of names of their family and who they married: Jessie Mitchell (born in 1907, married in 1937 to Charlie Champ a farmer in the Niobe district); John William (born in 1909, married in 1937 to Helen Wilson and they reside in Innisfail, but have a grain farm in the Antler Hill District); Beatrice Mary (born 1914 married in 1937 to Lewis Llewellyn of Llewellyn Electric); Ethel Agnes (born in 1915, married in 1934 to Snowdon Daines, Auctioneer and Real Estate Dealer); Joseph Robert (born in 1917, married in 1941 to Violet Nelson. He is the U.G.G. elevator agent at Niobe); Irene Eliza (born in 1919 and living in Innisfail); Hazel Sarah (born in 1923, married in 1941 to Douglas Drummond, Died in 1952).

THE BOB NIBLOCK FAMILY by Eliza Finn

Robert Alexander (Bob) Niblock was born in Newry County Down, Ireland on March 17, 1858. He spent his early years on the home farm with his parents, one brother and five sisters. As a young man, he left Ireland with his father and brother to come to America. The father, developed pneumonia on the way and died and was buried at sea. The young men arrived in Boston and stayed here only a short time. They went to Hamilton Ontario where they got work on a dairy farm. They stayed there about five years then decided to try Western Canada where there were homesteads opening up. They came to Calgary then went on west to Golden B.C. where they got work in the lumber camps.

My Dad, Robert Niblock, filed on a homestead about three miles south of what is now Penhold. He



Bob Niblock's son John doing field work.

continued to work in the woods during the winters and proved up on his homestead in the summers.

On Sept. 6, 1894, Robert Niblock married Agnes Wells. She was born Sept. 16, 1870 in Paisley, Scotland. She came with her family to a bush farm near Mindon, Ontario. They moved to Alberta where her father took a homestead in the Hill End District in 1901. When Agnes and Robert were married they returned to his homestead and lived in a sod-roofed log cabin. They raised a family of five children:

Eliza Jane, the eldest was born on the homestead, June 25, 1895. She married Harlan Densmore and has two sons, Arthur and Robert. Harlan died in March, 1935. In July, 1941 Eliza married George Finn and resides in Red Deer.

John Thomas was born, February 25, 1898 at Hill End. He married Sara Bradford. They have three children: John, Ida and Beth. John died August 6, 1963 and his widow lives at Penticton, B.C.

Mary Elizabeth was born June 26, 1902 at Hill End. She died in 1908 and is buried at Horn Hill.

Sarah Annie was born October 24, 1903. She married John Cloakey. They have three sons: Robert, Larry and Richard. Sarah and John live at Black Diamond, Alberta.

Robert Alexander (Alex) was born Jan. 24, 1908. He married Lily Comer and they have four children: Lorna, Verna, Pat and Bobby. Alex is semi retired and resides in Calgary.

Before the Robert Niblocks left the homestead, they decided to try ranching with a brother, Bill Niblock, the Harbison Bros. and the Whiteside Bros. They went out east of what is now Stettler in the summer of 1896 to put up hay and to get ready for winter, then moved out in the fall. Winter set in, in October and the snow was so deep and the weather very cold. They had about five miles to haul hay to the stock so it made it impossible to make more than one trip a day. The result was that they lost most of the stock and had a hard time to get enough food for themselves. They returned to the homestead in the Spring. Mother and Dad then moved to the Hill End District where they lived the rest of their lives. A log house was their home for a number of years.

Life was very primitive in the early days. There were no surveyed roads, only trails across the prairies. Later people were allowed to pay their taxes by working at making roads. There was very little money. They traded eggs and butter for groceries. Mother made all our clothes and knitted socks,

stockings and mitts. The flour sacks were used for all kinds of things. It is so hard today to look around and see what we have and realized that at one time our parents had to spend hours getting the necessities of life. Anyone travelling in those days was welcome to stop at any shack and make a meal and feed their horses. There was an unwritten law — that they leave kindling and wood ready for the owner when he came home. There was no such thing as a lock and key.

The neighbors helped one another whenever the need arose. A number of women in the neighborhood helped in cases of sickness or delivered new babies. Some of the earliest neighbors were: Songhursts, Hornetts, Bechervaise, Eastmans, and Lee's. The Farrowes and Speakman's lived beside Wavy Lake.

During the 1914-18 war, all the women in the district worked for the Red Cross. Many of the local boys went overseas and some didn't return. They were greatly missed in the district where they had grown up.

Early recreation was mainly visiting friends and relatives. Summer picnics and Christmas Concerts put on by the teachers were enjoyed by everyone. Church services were held in the school house.

Miss Kate Speakman was my first teacher. She boarded with Mother and Dad. One morning in the spring of 1901 when the creek was in full flood, she decided to ride to school. I was put on behind her and we started across the stream. When we were about half way across, the old horse lay down in the water giving us a thorough soaking! Needless to say, there was no school that day!

Agnes Niblock died March 27, 1924 and is buried in the Horn Hill Cemetery.

Bob Niblock died Nov. 17, 1932 and is buried beside his wife.

Our parents never seemed to complain about the hardships and our memory of them was that they made the best of what they had and kept busy and cheerful most of the time.

JOHN NICHOL (1875-1946) by Doris Walker

Mr. and Mrs. John Nichol and family of six arrived in Innisfail September, 1919 from Goodwater, Saskatchewan. The household effects came by rail and the family came by touring car. The trip took three days. We were happy to reach our destination as we were crowded and the roads were poor. A few incidents along the way stand out in our memory.

We arrived at Maple Creek, Saskatchewan the first night. This was the hunting season and the hotels were filled to capacity. One proprietor, being an enterprising type, had cots lined up in the bar for the overflow. This turned out to be our accomodation — amid stools, spittoons and stacked-up chairs. There seemed to be an all-night game going on overhead.

Next day we reached Medicine Hat at noon and were very mystified to see all the street lights burning. It seems they never turned them off because they had an endless supply of gas.

The last night of our journey we slept at a farm house near Lethbridge as our car had got stuck in an old irrigation ditch.

On arriving at Innisfail we stayed at the Royal Hotel operated by Mr. Dundas for a few days until the household goods arrived.

Mr. Nichol was born in Elgin County, Ontario and moved to Bottineau, North Dakota with his parents and family. As a young man he took out a homestead near there. His father gave each of his sons a team of oxen, a hand plough and a cow to start their own place. The local teacher, Florence Fuller, had taken out the adjoining homestead. When Mr. Nichol and Miss Fuller married they had both farms with which to make a start.

When the first two children were small they moved to Goodwater, Saskatchewan. This was wheat country. Mr. Nichol and his neighbour operated a steam threshing outfit in their neighborhood. He also raised thoroughbred heavy horses — Percherons and Clydesdales.

By the time there were six children, Mr. and Mrs. Nichol felt they must locate where there was a high school and an active church.

There were ads in the paper of fine land available in Alberta and since Mr. Nichol knew Walton Patching, an old schoolmate (who had settled near Innisfail), this was the area he decided to investigate. He arrived at Innisfail by train. After making inquiries at Whitcomb and Whitcomb (a livery and feed and fuel business) Mrs. Whitcomb agreed to drive Mr. Nichol by horse and buggy to Knee Hill Valley to the Patchings. Before returning to Saskatchewan Mr. Nichol purchased the Gunston place, one mile east of Innisfail.

Innisfail proved to be a fine location to raise a family. The children could walk to school and Sunday School and the family were blessed with such fine neighbors as the Norman MacLeods, Will Champs, Basil Cousins and John Moore. This was the first time Mr. Nichol had grown oats and barley. He needed more land, so bought property in the Big Bush area and cleared it.

Mr. and Mrs. Nichol had a couple of periods of semi-retirement in Calgary and in the Town of Innisfail, but when the depression came he bought the Harry Kent place in Little Red Deer. People had more land than cash in those years and it seemed logical to look after the properties.

At various times during his residence in Innisfail areas, he (Mr. Nichol) served as a member of the school board, as Reeve and as an elder of the Presbyterian Church.

Finally Mr. and Mrs. Nichol retired to Calgary. Their graves are at Queen's Park Cemetery, Calgary. Their family were:

Glen, Victoria, B.C.; retired from the C.N.R.
Maria, (Mrs. John Milligan) Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

Clarence, deceased

Doris (Mrs. D. Walker), Calgary, teacher

Walter, Invermere, B.C.; semi-retired

Earl, Calgary; realtor — Royal Trust Company.

ADAM MARTIN NISBET by Miss J.A. Nisbet

Adam Martin Nisbet was born in Lynden, Ontario July 1864; died December 1929. He married Sarah Isabella Ballagh, (born in Coburg, Ontario), at her uncle's home in Calgary May 24, 1893. Mr. Nisbet farmed in Ontario and came to Poplar Grove in 1890 by saddle horse from Calgary to homestead in the Horse Shoe Lake district. Tom and Matt Hamilton and Rosenbargos were neighbors when they came to homestead in 1892. On his way north from Calgary, Adam encountered a late snow storm and took shelter with a sheepherder. It was lambing time and he stayed for several days to help. When he left to continue his journey, he could hear the bleat of the lambs for miles.

He brought food, a tent, and clothing from Calgary. Later lumber was hauled from Calgary to build a four-room cottage style house. Sarah was a teacher and "filled in" at Bowden, Grahamston, Nisbet, and Horse Shoe Lake schools. She was often called as assistant at birth day "parties".

The Nisbets found the Alberta weather difficult to get used to; the hail, the terrifying electric storms, blizzards and the amazing phenomena of the chinook, the sudden changes from one extreme to another. One winter in a blizzard in 50 below zero weather, a man lost his way in the storm. Expecting to freeze to death, he came upon a sleigh track and followed it to a straw stack at Nisbet's — they were astonished to find him alive in the storm.



The Nisbits with Oat stalks at Fairview Farm. Mr. Nisbet with fork, Mrs. Nisbet, Isabelle, Rex, and Flossie; taken about 1910.

Adam and his son Hugh in later years, took great pains and interest in their grain crops and entered in many exhibitions and fairs. Mr. Nisbet was a prize winner with wheat at the Chicago International Fair and the Lethbridge Fair and Exhibition. At the Calgary Seed Fair and Hay Show, Hugh has won championship prizes in oats 1953 to 1957, 1959 and 1964 and the Malting Barley trophy in 1965. He was elected an Associate Member of the Canadian Seed Grower's Assoc. in 1959.

Children:

Florence — m. T. Towers Mar. 1925; lives in Edmonton; 2 daughters.

Martin Eric — Jan. 1896 — Feb. 1897.

Rex. T. — m. Ena Leppard; 1 son; Victoria.

Mary Margaret — Feb. 1901 — Mar. 1903;

Walter Douglas — Feb. 1902 — July 1963.

Isabel Elizabeth — m. Paul Thomas, (dec. 1940) 1 son Dean Thomas; m. Ray Faught. July 1904-1960.

Jessie Anne — Bowden.

Hugh Adam — m. Faye Baughman; 3 ch. Bowden.

MR. AND MRS. JOHN A. NOLAN AND FAMILY by Mrs. Shirley Fawcett

The Nolan family emigrated from County Meath, Ireland. John Alexander Nolan (Jack) was born at Beechridge, Quebec July 3, 1877. He was the ninth of a family of eleven born to William Nolan and Sarah McClennan Nolan. At the age of fourteen, John left home and became a steel worker in Montreal and adjacent American cities. He became proficient as an amateur boxer. This proved to be an asset financially and defensively. Wages were low and the lure of adventure and the prospect of better jobs enticed him westward. He came to Calgary in 1898. After spending two years working with the railway, he decided western ranching was what he wanted to do. He returned east and in 1902, he and his younger brother, William, came west to homestead.

He selected land in the Knee Hill Valley, twenty miles south-east of Innisfail, the N.W. 1/4 of 22-34-26 West of 4. For the 160 acres, he paid \$10.00 cash and to prove his right to the land promised to live on the property for six months per year and to break at least five acres per year for each of the following three years. The trip to the homestead land was made over roads that were prairie trails that become bog holes in wet areas. A log cabin and log barn were built and John H. McArthur, who had purchased a homestead nearby, spent the first winter with the Nolan brothers. John MacArthur was voted cook and his first attempts at making bread produced a substance that made a good target for shooting practice. All supplies had to come from Innisfail. Sometimes the trip was made with horses and wagon, sometimes on horseback, or when the trails were exceptionally bad by walking and carrying the necessary supplies.

The purchase of horses, plows, harness, mowers and other necessary articles had depleted the supply of cash, so in the fall of 1903, John Nolan and a friend and neighbour, Will Whealon, went to work for the Canadian Pacific Railway building steel bridges, first at Lethbridge and in following winters at Pincher Creek and other Crow's Nest Pass locations. Accommodation on this job included sleeping in unheated tents at 30 to 40 degrees below zero.

The first cattle were purchased from Pat Burns, Calgary and were part Texas Longhorns. They were branded with the N3 brand and turned loose to range. They were hardy range cattle but refused to be domesticated. Fences were non-existent and one obnoxious bull insisted on using the cabin as a scrub-



John and Mary Nolan in 1907

bing post at four A.M. Our Dad got fed up with this and dumped a pan of scalding water on him. Later he sympathized with the owner of the animal who was sure his bull had mange. Feed was not a problem as prairie wool was plentiful and cultivated land produced up to 90 bushels per acre of oats. Steers were held until they were three years old and cattle buyers from Calgary and Innisfail paid five to five and one-half cents per pound live weight and drove the cattle to Innisfail.

An aunt, Miss Catherine Nolan, joined her nephews and became the long needed cook at the Nolan homestead. In 1906 she was the first teacher at the Howell's Lake School and later taught at Milner, the home school. She died in 1909 and was buried in Pleasant Valley Cemetery.

John Nolan had met Mary Berry, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Berry who homesteaded on the Milnerton Flats. The Berry family emigrated from Durham, England in 1879 and settled in Illinois for four years, then moved to Boone, Iowa and to Canada in 1903. Mary Berry worked for Miss Simpson, the druggist in Innisfail. The wedding day was set for January 23, 1907 at the Berry home. The bridegroom was late for his wedding as a howling blizzard and a temperature of 35 degrees below zero caused the Nolan men to spend a good part of the day shovelling out their team in order to get the five miles to the Berry home. However the minister and the bride were waiting and the wedding was held somewhat later than they had planned.

Five children were born to John and Mary Nolan: Alex, Catherine, Esther, Winnie and Elva. Alex died when he was one and one-half years of age. Catherine married Mr. Shirley Fawcett of Red Deer and they were parents of one daughter, Maureen, who married Mr. Dale Greig. Esther married Mr. Stanley Benedict of Wimborne and they were parents of Ruth and Jack. Ruth Benedict married Mr. Russell Cwiklewich and their children were David, Gale and twins, Sandra and Susan. Jack Benedict married Miss Donna Merner and their children were Pamela, Dawn and Ross. Winnie married Mr. Harold Benedict of Wimborne and they were parents of Edith and Alex. Edith Benedict married Mr. Richard Bruntjen and their children were Della and Carl. Alex Benedict married Miss Sharon Cochrane and their children were Bonnie, Derick and Bradley. Elva married Mr. Walter Sick of Bowden and they were parents of three sons, Gerald and twins, Roger and Russell.

Our Dad saw his dream of being a big rancher vanishing as farming crowded out the rancher. He

changed to farming but always believed in cattle and raised purebred stock as long as he farmed. He was one of the fortunate few who saved his cattle in the May 4 blizzard of 1919. Additional land had to be purchased to make farming worthwhile. He bought one quarter of neighbouring C.P.R. land and four other quarters from settlers who were tired of the struggle in the new land. In order to break the land after it was cleared, as many as twelve horses were used on the breaking plow. Our first tractor was a 10-20 Titan and sometimes for additional power, four horses were hooked to the front of the tractor. Dad made a brush cutter and purchased a threshing machine. Our first car was a 490 Chevrolet Touring, side curtains and all.

Wheat was hauled the twenty miles to Innisfail in the winter when the bog holes were frozen, using a bob-sleigh and four horses. When the weather was cold, the men often walked most of the forty miles behind the sleigh. A trip was sometimes made every other day hauling about 75 bushels per load, 60 bushels in the sleigh box and 15 bushels in sacks piled on top of the loose wheat.

John Nolan was an early District Agriculturalist and judged field crops and cattle. He was a member of the Milnerton Agricultural Society and helped with the organization of the Milnerton Fair. He was elected Councillor and represented his area of the Municipality of Arthur. He served for many years on the board of the Milner School and was a member of the debating team. He was an enthusiastic hard ball player, a good swimmer and helped establish Crystal Pool. Although he admired guns and was a good shot with a revolver or rifle, he was always a conservationist. He knew every bird by name and could imitate many of them. He knew where and when to find each flower, often we would try, usually unsuccessfully, to find gentians, violets or lady slippers before he did.

Mother was an industrious member of the Milnerton Women's Institute. She usually boarded the teacher and the travelling or student minister who conducted church services, at times, in the Milner School. Although there was also a hired man as well as the family to care for, she found time to help with the farm chores and the care of a large vegetable and flower garden. She canned the vegetables and all the wild berries we could pick. Under her guidance, we learned to cook, sew, knit, crochet and practice other useful handicrafts. Both our parents encouraged us to continue our education and we all attended Innisfail High School. This meant paying board in Innisfail and many forty mile trips for them over impossible roads.

Inevitably all good things must end and on November 1, 1944 John Nolan sold his farm and retired to Calgary. He died February 15, 1948. His loving wife lived in the Calgary home until her death May 30, 1966. John and Mary Nolan were buried in Queen's Park Cemetery, Calgary.

We remember work as only a part of farm life. Our home was filled with fun and laughter. We remember

the picnics with home made ice-cream, the box socials and whist drives, the debates and political rallies, the dances in the local schools and in our or the neighbour's new barn. We remember good friends and neighbours. Most of all we remember two loving parents, John and Mary Nolan, who gave us the chance to grow up, to get an education, to have fun and also taught us to appreciate this good land.

W.E. NOLAN by Mrs. Elaine Petersen

My father, William Edwin Nolan was born at Beechridge, St. Urbain County, Chateauguay, Quebec, August 17, 1879. Mother, Edna May Nolan was born Sept. 13, 1886 at Hagensville, Michigan. They were married in 1906.

Father came from Holten Quebec accompanied by his brother Jack to the Milnerton district to take up a homestead in the spring of 1902. He came to Calgary by train and it was there he bought a team of horses and wagon and drove across country to the homestead. There were no roads and much of the country was covered with water and many times the water was up to the floor of the wagon. Coupled with hardships of travel, my Dad came down with the measles on the trip to the homestead. We often heard Dad say "It was so wet in those early days that you could mire a horseblanket on a hilltop".

He had worked in a general store and post office in Alpena, Michigan. After coming west he farmed and continued to do so until he retired and moved into Innisfail in 1944.

In 1907, while taking my uncle to be married on a near-by farm, they were caught in a blizzard making my uncle late for his wedding. Dad proved up his homestead and grew a garden and some grain. He also had a small herd of Hereford cattle, some chickens and a few pigs. There was an abundance of wild game and wild fruit. Mother made jams and jellies and we all so enjoyed this on her own homemade bread.

Dad built a log house (still standing) and he had hauled all the logs for nearly 20 miles. While building, Dad had the misfortune to fall and break his leg.



Wedding picture of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Edwin Nolan.

Any produce to be sold was taken to Innisfail where food and clothing were purchased. A trip to Innisfail mean't leaving home by 4:30 in the morning and arriving back at the farm by midnight or later. Much of the trip in winter was made on foot to keep warm.

Early neighbors were my Uncle Jack, McArthurs, Milners, Powells, Jarvis, Berrys' and Heathers. Mr. Milner donated the land for the first school which was named after him.

Early recreation consisted of church services in the school house. The school house was the community center where everyone met for debates, card parties, box socials, dances, picnics and the annual Christmas concert which was a highlight for all.



The first home on the W. E. Nolan homestead.

Children born to Mr. & Mrs. W.E. Nolan were: Elaine m. Viggo Petersen residing in Innisfail; Alice m. Marvin Beckman, residing in Red Deer; Madeline m. Jack Miller and resides in Didsbury; William m. Nancy Shewan residing in Red Deer; Peggy m. Frank Guthrie and resides in California. We attended Milner school no. 909. In the early days, country schools were only conducted during the summer months . . . with grades 1-8 being taught. The first teacher was Miss Catherine Nolan (Dads' aunt). Dad served on the school board for many years and was sec/treas. Mother boarded many of the teachers. One daughter became a registered nurse, two daughters became teachers, one daughter works in a diet kitchen and William is an electrician. Mother was famous for her culinary achievements excelling herself in her pastries. She was a first rate seamstress. There was always a crowd of visitors at the farm home as the hospitality was known far and near.

I recall the McArthurs, Laydens, Hibberts, Jarvis and Robinsons as being early farm families we knew so well.

Mr. William Edwin Nolan died March 25, 1955. Mrs. Edna May Nolan died August 24, 1970. Both are interred in the Innisfail Cemetery.

JOSEPH NORMAN by Walter R. Norman

Joseph Norman, my father, came to Innisfail in the summer of 1910 from Calumet, Michigan, U.S.A. He was born on a farm near Kincardine, Ontario, on Sep-

tember 16, 1866. He was the oldest of nine children born to Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Norman who came originally from Carlisle, England.

Dad's decision to come to Alberta was no doubt influenced by advertisements of cheap land and a sunny climate. He came to Innisfail because his brother William Norman was here and was principal of the Innisfail school at the time. Also, his brother-in-law and sister, Mr. & Mrs. Norman MacLeod had also come from Calumet and settled here a few months earlier.

My father came west by C.P.R. with his carload of household goods, a wagon, some tools, etc. Mother, with five young children, including me, the baby at the time, went back to Ontario for a visit. We came out to Innisfail a few weeks later.

In Calumet Dad worked in a copper mine. Underground work payed well but was bad for his health and his doctor advised him to change. In Alberta he farmed. When he came here he rented a quarter section north east of Innisfail and we lived here for a couple of years. In 1911 he and Uncle Norman MacLeod went north by covered wagon and took up homesteads near Czar, Alberta. The next year when they went to prove up on them, they realized that the land was very poor, so gave them up. The place we were living on was bought by Archie McKechnie. We rented the Ed Howard place for a while, then moved to the Ward place in the Buffalo Creek district. It was while we lived on the Howard place in 1912 that tragedy struck. Dad was raking on the Arnell quarter across the road from Roy Baycroft's when a bad storm came up. He was struck by lightning and the horses ran away. One got tangled in barbed wire and was cut so badly it had to be destroyed. There was no hospital then. The Baycrofts took Dad into their home and he was there for six weeks. Mother stayed with him all the time. Mrs. Westgate from Innisfail came out and looked after Jean, the baby, and the rest of us. My father lived for eleven years after this, but he was badly crippled and in severe pain a great deal of the time, but he took the responsibility from the beginning. Mother knitted and sewed and was always a good manager and we got along.



Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Norman, taken about 1916.

In 1917 we moved to a farm just west of Bowden. It was here that Dad died in 1923. The rest of us moved to the Grahamston district where we lived on the Buckham place for four years. In the spring of 1928 the family, except me, moved to Sexsmith in the Peace River country. In 1936 Mother and Tom moved to Edmonton. My mother had a stroke in 1937 and my three sisters took care of her in their homes until her death in 1947. Mother was always patient, cheerful and uncomplaining as was my brother Tom. They made a good home for us.

Joseph Norman married Mary Bell who was born in Kincardine, Ontario on Dec. 15, 1876. They were married in Calumet, Michigan. They had seven children: Thomas Jacob, twin, was born in April 1899 in Calumet, Michigan. He married Eva Guy in 1953. Anna Jessie, twin, was born in April 1899. She married Bernard Strack at Bowden in 1922. They had one son, Maynard. Bernard died in 1945. Anna married Albert Burman in 1951 in Vancouver. She died at Vancouver in 1953. Murdock Leslie was born Feb. 1903 in Calumet. He married Lillian Stone at Sexsmith in 1935, where they farmed and three girls and a boy were born. Later they moved to Burnaby, B.C. where he worked for the Parks board. Their son Leslie played lacrosse for several years. Murd and Lil are now living in retirement at Ft. Langley, B.C. Isabelle Marie was born in June 1907 at Calumet. She married William Bailey of Bowden in 1925. They had two children: Donald, born in Bowden, was drowned at Sexsmith in 1928. Murdeana, Mrs. John Sucha, was born in Sexsmith and now lives in Calgary. Bill farmed at Bowden and Sexsmith. After returning from overseas during WW2 he was engineer and later electrician at the General Hospital in Calgary. Walter Russel was born in July 1909 in Calumet. I married Wilda "Billie" Howard of Bowden in 1946. Since WW2 I worked in garages in High River, for Hansen's in Innisfail and at Olds. I have been vehicle maintenance man at the Bowden Institute since March 1954. Billie and I live in Bowden. John Roderick was born Oct. 1911 at Innisfail. He married Verna Huston in Calgary in 1940. He is a carpenter. They have two sons and one daughter. They also have triplet granddaughters born in 1970. John and Verna live in Calgary. Jean Marie was born in June 1913 at Innisfail. She married Harold Love at Sexsmith in 1934. They farm at Sexsmith and their three sons were born there.

I, Walter, enlisted in March 1941 and served in the Fifth Division Service Corps in WW2. My brother Tom was with the Edmonton Fusiliers. John served with the Calgary Highlanders in Europe. Maynard Strack was with the Fifth Division Signal Corps.

Life was mostly hard work for us but I remember school concerts and picnics, also dances at country schools and at Bowden and Innisfail. Tom and Ann went to school at Innisfail. The rest of us went to Buffalo Creek and Bowden. John and Jean also went to Grahamston school. Miss Shearer, later Mrs. Hugh Hodge, was my first teacher at Buffalo Creek. Lloyd and Irene Thompson were school mates.

I have been a member of the Canadian Legion since WW2. I also belong to the Masonic Lodge.

Joseph Norman died January 7, 1923. Mary (Bell) Norman died June 2, 1947. Isabelle (Norman) Bailey died January 4, 1962. Thomas Norman died March 12, 1962. All are interred in Queen's Park Cemetery, Calgary. Anna (Norman) Burman died February 6, 1953. Maynard Strack died August 14, 1968. They are buried in Vancouver. Donald Bailey died in Aug. 1928. He is buried at Sexsmith, Alberta.

MR. & MRS. WILLIAM NORMAN by T.A. Norman

William Norman came from Kincardine, Ontario, born April 8, 1884. Florence Norman was born April 4, 1887 in Ingersoll, Ontario. Mr. Norman was raised on a farm in the Kincardine area (Lake Huron). After coming west he attended the Calgary Normal School and became a teacher. During the following years he was a teacher, a farmer, and a bookkeeper.

Florence A. Lilywhite had attended teacher's college in Ontario prior to coming west to visit her sister who was married and living in Calgary. Florence enrolled in the Calgary Normal School where she met William Norman. They both graduated in the Spring class of 1908. Florence's first teaching position was at Granum, Alberta. William and Florence were married in Calgary in 1909. William came to the Innisfail district because he was offered a position of teacher principal in 1910. They had been teaching school east of Olds, Mrs. Norman at Hammer and Mr. Norman at Bennett.

In Innisfail, the Normans lived in the 'Pink House' which was in the north west portion of the town. They were neighbors with a Scottish lady who is best remembered for her friendly help and croup remedy which was treacle (molasses) and goose grease.

Mr. & Mrs. Norman moved from Innisfail about 1915 to the Berrydale district and later moved to the White Creek area where they remained and became farmers. In his early years in Alberta Mr. Norman worked at haying and harvesting to supplement the small wage received as a teacher in those times. Later when he took up farming, the abundance of wild fruits made a welcome addition to summer and winter diet. Though he did not care for sheep, Mother



Mrs. William Norman; graduation picture.



William Norman; graduation picture.

would get a fleece from the neighbors and spin wool for socks, sweaters and mitts.

Mother and Dad both enjoyed horseback riding. Mother was a good swimmer and enjoyed ice skating on the river when it was clear of snow. We grew up close to the Little Red Deer river not far from what is now Red Lodge Provincial Park. The local people would gather there most every Sunday afternoon all summer for picnics, ball games, and swimming.

All of us attended the White Creek School where grades one to nine were taught. Most of the time there was about thirty pupils taught by one teacher, usually fresh out of Normal School. In the winter the school was heated by a big wood stove and lots of days it never got warm enough to thaw the frozen lunches in our lunch pails. In summer we walked to school and often the mosquitoes were so bad we used to break a leafy branch from the trees to beat them off.

William Norman died February 4, 1959; Florence Norman Wackett died November 8, 1965; both are buried in Innisfail Cemetery.

Their children:

Dorothy, born 1910, died 1928, buried in Innisfail.

Janet — married Jas. Church; one son Jim. Second marriage to John Jabagy, Calgary.

Richard — R.C.A.F. killed overseas 1944.

Herbert George (Ted) — married Gertrude Johnson in England; farms in Innisfail; children: Trudy, Mary, Linda, Gary, Glenn, Kevin.

Thomas — married Carole McKean Brayton; farms in Innisfail; children: Dale, Lynn, Joan, Richard.

Rhoda — Married Ches Goddard; Olds; children: Carol, Marilyn, Terry.

Helen — married Clary Anderson; Sackville, N.B.; Children: Nancy, Richard, Jill.

Donald — married Dorothy Plested; Golden, B.C.; Children: Donna, Dianne, Gwen, Stanley, Twyla, Brent.

John — married Joyce Kinsman; London, Ont.; Children: Stanley, Jacqueline, Mark, Christy.

PAT AND IRENE NORMANDEAU by Kenneth Moffat

Mr. & Mrs. Normandeau came to the Knee Hill Valley district and took up the Lockwood farm. It was in the 1920's that they arrived here from Montana. The Lockwood place had a cold, log house and I recall that one would have to wear as many clothes inside the house as outside in an attempt to keep warm.

Mr. Normandeau had one of the early steam engines in the district used for breaking and threshing and he did much in custom work. They were here three or four years and were caught in the recession of the 20's and decided to return to Montana. There were four children: Rupert, Jimmy, Eddie, Bertha. The two eldest ones attended Pleasant Valley School.

The mother and the two small children returned to Montana by train while the father and boys trailed from here by horse and wagons. It was tragic that before Mr. Normandeau and the boys returned that Bertha fell into an irrigation ditch from a bridge (in

Montana) and was killed. Even tho' the family didn't reside in our district too long, they were very well thought of and all our hearts ached for the family when we learned of the terrible accident.

SCHOOLS



Innisfail's first school opened in the fall of 1891 in a small vacant house close to Constantine's and Geo. West's store. Lulu A. Short was the first teacher. The schoolhouse pictured here was first used in the summer of 1892. 1. Lily McDougall (daughter of Rev. John McDougall) 2. Maggie Smith 3. Mabel Constantine 4. Iva Cook 5. Alice Dodd 6. Jean Constantine 7. Bertha Smith 8. Tilly Cook 9. Fred Smith 10. Jennie Dodd 11. Lucy Browne 12. Maggie Dodd 13. Hugh Murray 14. Miss Lulu Short (teacher) 15. Olive Detlor 16. Jessie Murray 17. Buddie Detlor 18. Lida Browne 19. Jim Smith 20. Lilly Cook 21. Annie Bioletti 22. Ernest Dodd 23. Jeannie Simpson 24. Bliss Constantine 25. May Simpson 26. Wilfred Browne 27. John Cook 28. Robert Wilson 29. Howard Wynn 30. Leeson Wynn.



At Innisfail School: Jessie Park, Agnes Johnson, Emma Ferguson, ? Allan, Orval McArthur, Sigurd Johnson, Frank West, Reg. Geary, ?, ?, Dewey Barwis, Jack Rogers, Bobby McInroy, Aubrey McMillan.



At Innisfail School: Elmer Marks, Lynford Kemp, Frank West, Tina Scott, Evelyn Wilson, Dorothy Cooke, Dorothy Rawlinson, Anna Smith, Ellen McFadyen, Edith Shepherd, Nina Flannagan, Emma Ferguson.



Brick School in Innisfail



Grade III, Innisfail School, 1913 or 1914. Back row: Myrtle Champ, Roberta Morton, Ruth Pratt, Alec Daines, Edith Westgate, Hazelwood Kemp, Ruby White, Gertrude Potter, Basil Daines, Margaret Fumerton, Charlie Champ, Mary Cameron, Laura Scott. Kneeling: Keith MacLean, Rachel Scott, Edith Miller, Tommy Rawlinson, Lena Kirkham, Lloyd Marks, Leslie Chisholm, Jean Scott; Front row: Isabelle MacLeod, Jessie Smith, Bursleigh Moore, Vera Atkinson.



Innisfail High School, Grades 9 and 11, 1918-1919. Far left, front to back: Norman Manuel, Gertrude Beno, Mary Cameron, Jean Scott, Ruby White, Lena Kirkham; 2nd row: Isabelle MacLeod, Elizabeth Scott, Naomi Wade, Charles Taylor, Jessie Smith, Frances Sherwood; 3rd row: Helen Wade, Hazel MacArthur, Emma Krause, Laura Scott, Colin Ferry, Keith MacLean, Fenwick Oakes; 4th row: Neil Manuel, Myrtle Champ, Esther McAllister, Margaret Campbell, Vesta Bond, Edith Miller, Irene MacLean; 5th row: Marjorie Shenfield, Marguerite Bowden, Gwendolyn Bowden, Ellen McFadyen; 6th row: Dorothy Rawlinson, Jennie Sheilds, Agnes Mof-fat, Edith Shepherd. Principal Mr. Crosby.



At Innisfail School: Front row: Geo. McArthur, Allan Dea, Herb Stiles, Stuart McKay, Harry Shanks, Pat Channell, Lloyd Pendergast; 2nd row: Raymond Hileman, Rus. Edwards, Ernie Marks, Russel Varty, Alfred Anderson, Dean Paul, Lloyd Broadrib, Geo. Kirkham. 3rd row: Edith Nash, ?, Lillian Broadrib, Janet Watt, Eva Alden, Ethel Hileman, Olive Hewitt, Karen Nash, Jessie Dundas, Grace Watt. Back row: ?, Clarence Holden, ?, ?, Violet Wilson, Earl Beno, Laurence Pinkham, Archie Murgatroyd.



Innisfail Teachers: Back row, L. to R.: Mr. Lougheed, Hattie' Law, Nan Hodge, Helen Simpson, E. W. Willis. Front row: Leslie Chisholm, Isabell MacLeod, Iris Milligan, Mrs. Aylesworth.



Pleasant Valley School



The first Hill End School



The first Buffalo Creek School, built by Joe Dobson and opened Jan. 10, 1910.



Oklahoma School



Aberdeen School 1911



Aberdeen School: Helen Hovey, Mabel Bilton, Aggie Moffat; Mrs. Durham and twin daughters Edith and Winnie.

THOMAS OAKES by Roy A. Oakes

Thomas and Alice Oakes came to Alberta when in their 60's and 50's respectively in April 1906. They had been preceded by two sons; George, and his wife Sarah had come early in 1905 and David later that year. When Thomas and Alice joined their sons in Alberta, they were accompanied by five additional sons as well as their daughter and her husband, Alice and Jim Tatham.

The family homesteaded in the Milnerton Valley and the first home was built about 1/2 mile north of the Mount Pleasant school. Richard, the youngest son, took over this quarter and farmed it and three others until his retirement in the late 1950's.

Thomas Oakes was born in Lancashire, England around 1840 and his wife Alice Elizabeth Johnston was born in Lincolnshire, England about 1860. Thomas was a widower with six children when he married Alice, and she bore him 13 more children of whom 12 survived. Not all the family came to Alberta and of those who did, only four remained here. They were:

George (1875 - 1958) — who was married to Sarah Dobson (whose family also settled here).

Frank (1880 - 1970) — who married Delilah Whetham.

Roy (1888 -) — who married Edna Whetham; they still live in Innisfail.

Richard (? - 1971) — a bachelor; retired to Innisfail after leaving the farm.

Thomas Oakes had studied Law as a young man but found the living rather poor in that profession and to better support his growing family he became a cabinet-maker. Near retirement age when he arrived in Alberta, he left most of the farming to his sons. The family came to Alberta from Hamilton, Ontario. The children had all been born near Hamilton. While George and David were investigating Alberta in 1905, Mr. & Mrs. Oakes had settled in North Dakota, but were encouraged to continue on to Alberta the

following year accompanied by several of their younger children.

One of the most tragic occurrences ever to happen around Innisfail was the fire which destroyed the home of George and Sarah Oakes and took the lives of six of their eight children. The George Oakes had moved from the Milnerton area to a farm in the Horse Shoe Lake-Grahamston district and had been established there for a few years. It was Nov. 27, 1917 and a late harvest had just been completed. A musical company on tour was performing in Innisfail that night and as a treat after many days' hard work, George took his wife, his eldest son and his eldest daughter (Fenwick and Mamie) to the show. The other five children were left in the care of the next eldest daughter, 12 year old Myrtle. They were to be taken to the show the next evening. No one really knows how the fire started, but it is thought that a lantern hanging at the foot of the stairs in the two-storey house, serving as a night light, exploded shortly after the children went to bed. By the time neighbors arrived on the scene, the house was an inferno and there was no hope of rescuing the children. Sam, the six year old, had evidently fallen through or down the burning stairs and managed to crawl out of the house. He was found badly burned in the yard and died in hospital in Innisfail on Nov. 29, 1917. The six children were buried in the Innisfail cemetery. In April of 1918 Sarah (Sadie) gave birth to her ninth and last child, Fenwick. Those who died were: Myrtle H.F. born June 15, 1905; Violet L.S.M. born May 1, 1907; Muriel I. born April 8, 1909; Samuel W. born Feb. 16, 1911; J.Arthur R. born March 10, 1913; and Helen G. born July 3, 1916.

The first neighbors to Thomas and Alice were the Roland Moore family, the Dobson family, the Mike Walton family and the Layden families.

The weather played its part in making life interesting for the Oakes' as it did for many families. It is recalled that one chinook blew up so fast that a load of pigs being hauled to market by horse-drawn sleigh went in on snow and came home on mud. Also one recalls times when not only were fenceposts completely covered by drifts of snow, but so were high corrals and those early, rather short, telephone poles.

The Oakes brothers enjoyed baseball in their youth and young manhood and played for many years on teams in their respective districts. Arthur and Richard were still of school age upon their arrival in Alberta and attended Mr. Pleasant school briefly. Roy Oakes is a charter member of the Alberta Wheat Pool.

Thomas Edwin Oakes died about 1913 in Detroit, Michigan. Alice Elizabeth Oakes died about 1940 in Chatoona, Tennessee. George died in 1958, his wife Sarah in 1971; both interred in Calgary.

W. K. OLSON by Freda Olson

Wilhjalmur Kappel Olson was born August 9, 1886 in Argyle, Manitoba. His parents had come from Iceland in 1877. After homesteading in Manitoba, the family later moved to Newton, B.C. W.K. (Karl) Olson worked in the logging camps in B.C. before

coming to Alberta in 1913. As well as taking up farm land in the Pine Hill District, he also worked for Stewart Brothers in Penhold. He did many types of custom work for the neighbors such as grinding grain, sawing wood, threshing, etc. A strong, able-bodied versatile fellow, he could turn his hand to most any kind of a job.

In 1917 he married Violet Johannson of the HOLA District. She was born in 1897, and passed away at an early age in 1922. Karl was foreman of one of the road gangs that pushed the township line through the big slough north of the Einarson place, which was quite a feat in those days.

On Nov. 10, 1928 he was united in marriage to Miss Freda Einarson of Markerville. In 1948 they moved from the original farm to the Big Bend district where he resided until his passing as the result of a traffic accident on Sept. 4, 1962.

W.J. O'NEAIL by Beatrice Channell

W.J. O'Neail came to Innisfail in 1924 from Bassano, Alberta. He had graduated in law from the University of Toronto when he was twenty-three years of age. He was the silver medalist. He practiced in Toronto for a few years, then was city solicitor in Medicine Hat for a number of years. He went to Bassano for a short time and was advised by a friend, who was a judge, to go to Innisfail as there was a splendid opening for a good lawyer.

He liked Innisfail and was a good lawyer, but worked too hard for his clients. He was not a money maker.

His father was a prominent businessman and politician. He was born in Paris, Ontario. He and his wife lived in Innisfail until their passing.

SETH CUMMINS REMEMBERS:

— Fred Scully, called Scully. He came from Ireland and he did light work around the Royal Hotel in Innisfail. He caused lots of smiles and laughs with his dry humor. He didn't have any relations here, but he had lots of friends.

JOHN SWAFFIELD ORTON by Mrs. Gladys Orton & Molly Hughes

J.S. Orton was born in Norfolk, England in 1887. He was educated at Pembroke College, Cambridge and Wells. He was ordained Deacon and Priest of the Diocese of Southwark in 1910 and 1911 respectively. He came out to the Edmonton Mission in 1913 in response to the Archbishops appeal for Western Canada. He married the former Gladys Speck of Pad-dle River, Alberta.

He arrived in Innisfail in 1917. The Fall Fair was in progress when they arrived and some chickens were being auctioned off which he got. He was asked what he was going to do with them. He replied that his predecessor had been starved out, so he was getting some chickens just in case. (Needless to say, we never needed to live on old chickens recalls Mrs. Orton).

His popularity in Innisfail and district was firmly established. Life was full of crisis — good and bad, but we were very happy in Innisfail. He was always

there for anyone who may need help. Nothing was too much bother to him. During the flu epidemic he turned his home into a nursing home, sending his wife away and helping to nurse the patients himself.

It seems we were never without a visitor. Children were always in and out. He was a member of the Innisfail fire brigade and an unpaid assistant to the N.W.M.P. He had a great gift of adapting himself to everybody.

We both enjoyed horses and riding. Mrs. Orton enjoyed riding in the Ladies' Saddle Class in competition with Mrs. Pixley.

On numerous occasions women from rather isolated farms would stay at our house to await their confinements. Father would bring them in from the country when he would be conducting his regular services at places like Pine Lake or Gordon School.

There were three sons and three daughters:



Rev. John Orton, Innisfail's greatest humanitarian.

Jack was born in Innisfail in 1918. He went to R.M.C. at Kingston and through the war with the Artillery. He was then in the Korean War. He was in Ankara, Turkey for the Canadian Army for two years and is recently retired from the Army and now lives with his family in Ottawa. He works for the Government Foreign Aid in Africa just returning from Ethiopia.

Molly was born in 1920 and now lives in Victoria. She married J.H. Hughes and has three step children to look after.

Anthony Charles (Tony) is a chartered Accountant and lives in Vancouver with his wife Geraldine. They have no family.

Joan lives in Whitehorse and is married to Douglas Craig, a geologist in the N.W.T. She has three children.

Ruth is married to Nigel Waterfield and they have two boys.

Frederick James (Fred) and his wife Madeline live in Lillooet where he teaches school.

In 1929 the Orttons moved from Innisfail to High River. They some years later moved to Duncan B.C. Mr. Orton was run over by a hit and run driver and died December 26, 1937. He is buried in St. Peter's Churchyard at Quamichan, B.C.

Mrs. Orton is living in Victoria.

THE MOSES ORTWEIN FAMILY by Audrey Ortwein

Moses Ortwein was born in St. Jacobs, Ontario in 1873. As a young man he moved to May City, Iowa, where in 1899 he married Susanna Bauman, a Canadian girl born in Floradale, Ontario in 1881. In November of 1902, they and their two children, Leander and Elsie, arrived in Innisfail by train and spent the winter months with her parents, Amos Baumanns, who had preceded them to a homestead in the Mayton area.

In 1903, Moses took out homestead rights on a quarter section that had a few acres broken — so it cost him \$40.00 instead of the usual \$10.00. That fall he harvested 500 bushels of grain from 15 acres and 250 bushels of potatoes from 1 acre. The produce from the homesteads in this area was hauled by team to Innisfail 18 miles away. The trail used by neighbors to and from town followed the coulee bank and passed between Moses' house and barn, making for frequent visitors in cold or blustery weather. The bags of candy tucked among the groceries from West's store was a great treat to the children as money was too scarce for such luxuries.

The school district was formed in 1904 and in 1905 when the school was opened, Moses named it May City, after the town in Iowa, and served for many years on the school board. One of the first teachers was Lizzie Barnhill, followed by her sister, Ida Barnhill. For many years church was held in the school, and all recreation was centered around the church and school picnics and programs.

In 1911 a new house was built and is still occupied by a son, Gordon Ortwein. The acquirement of another quarter of land assured the prosperity of the family. Fred Schafer, Sam Cummins, Menno



Moses and Susanna Ortwein with their youngest son Vernon.

Gingrich, are names I remember spoken of as good friends and close neighbors.

Moses died in 1921 at the age of 48 following an

accident while digging a well. In 1943 Susanna Ortwein retired to Innisfail where she lived until 1951 and then moved to a nursing home in Calgary where she resided until her death in 1958.

Members of their family include:

Leander, now retired and living in Innisfail with his wife, the former Helen Smith. 6 children — Delton, Alice, Clayton, Grace, Joyce, and Bernice.

Elsie (Mrs. Henry Flinn), also retired and living in Olds; 4 children — Everet, Warren, Elaine, Marlene.

Alden married Dorothy Osgood and lived in Kalama, Wash. until his death in 1971. His wife predeceased him in 1969. 3 children — Darald and Gerald (twins) and Joanne.

Milton is retired and lives in Longview, Wash. with his wife Clara (Farley). 3 children - Donald, Norman and Trent.

Edith (Mrs. Charles Glubrecht) resides in Reno, Nevada; they are also retired. One child, Fern.

Gordon and Audrey (Clifford) still farm the original homestead. 7 children: Kenneth, Doris, Una, Wilma, Karen, June and Judy (twins).

Vernon served overseas in WWII with the then little known radar division of the RCAF. Vern and his wife, Laverne (Middleton) live in Olds where he is well known for his work with Air Cadets. Two children — Arden and Claire.

OXTOBY FAMILY by Milton Oxtoby

George Oxtoby was born March 8, 1863 near Ethel, Ontario, where his parents had settled in the maple bush after coming from England. His father hailed from Yorkshire and his mother from Lincolnshire. At the age of fourteen when his father died, George was left with the responsibility of looking after his mother, brother, and three sisters. They finished clearing their 100 acre farm. While a young man, George worked during the winter in lumber camps in Washington near where Seattle is now. On Jan. 20, 1890 he married Eliza Ellen Lake in Listowel, Ontario. She was born near Ethel, Ontario on Nov. 4, 1867. They settled down to farming in Ontario and George used to come west to Manitoba in the fall and work on a big threshing outfit as separator man. In 1906 after harvest was all over he came on to Alberta to the Innisfail district and bought a quarter section of land with a log house and small barn. In the spring of 1907 he came out with a car load of settlers effects and bought the quarter section across the road from the one he already owned. Mrs. Oxtoby and their four children followed about a fortnight later.

Chester Roy was born Nov. 1890. He married Ethel Sanford who died; married Edith Clifford who died; married Mary Filleul. They now live in Victoria, B.C.

Pearl Rosetta was born May 8, 1893. She married Hank Peterson who died; married James Garlick who died; and is now a widow living in Calgary.

Milton Russell was born Feb. 28, 1897 and married Mabel Agnes Holt in June 8, 1918.

Mabel Ellen was born March 31, 1905 and married Edwin Oliver Holt on Jan. 1, 1927.



Oxtoby home in 1915.

Mr. Harry Moore Sr. was the earliest and closest neighbor. He helped to move Mr. Oxtoby's effects and get settled on the farm place and they traded work at harvest. The quarter section of land across the road had a great deal of willow brush on it that had to be cleared off. At first George tried chopping it down to make a fire guard around it but that took too much time. So he invented a horse drawn brush cutter. He took his plan to Blacksmith Wilson in Innisfail and told him how he wanted it made. He got a blade 8 feet long and 8 inches wide, hammered it out in the forge and braced it well. It turned out to do a very good job. Mr. Wilson urged him to patent it but George wouldn't hear of it; he gave Mr. Wilson permission to make more of them; several were made and sold. George also invented a steering device to attach to the tractor when ploughing so no steering would be required of the operator and a wood splitter, which was quite a labor saver in the days of the woodpile.

It was a sad fact that in the pioneering days on a farm when boys got big enough to work, going to school took second place.

Even with patching up, the log house was too cold to live in, so a new house was built in 1910. It was made of cement blocks which were made in Innisfail and the lumber came from West's lumber yard. In the year 1911, the barn was built. Loads of gravel were hauled from the river to make the high foundation with a wooden home-made cement mixer. 1911 was also the year the party-line telephone was installed.

For many years, George was road foreman. All farm owners were allowed to work out their taxes by putting on a man and team to work a scraper. When the crop was all in, they got busy at the road work through rain and shine. In the low spots willow brush was put in cross-ways. They ploughed up grassy sods to place lengthways over the brush to make a solid foundation. This was all done by hand. Then the horses and scrapers hauled dirt over it all. In rainy weather there was so much muck and mud they were covered with it and the driving lines would be all muddy. The passers-by on the road would either praise them up for the good job they were doing or tell them they would be better off staying home in bed. In later years there were road graders drawn by eight horses used to maintain the road. Milton had



Mr. and Mrs. George Oxtoby and their 1918 Dodge car.

the job of dragging the road for years with four horses and a road-drag. But that is all in the past. The roads are so built up and good now who would ever think the trail to Calgary (1915) was a dirt road and had mud holes when the weather was rainy. After that it was gravelled and dangerously dusty.

It was a happy day when the Model T Ford was brought out to the farm in 1914.

About 1915 a milking machine was purchased, about the first one in the locality. It almost made the chore of milking cows a pleasure.

Mr. Oxtoby purchased his first tractor, a Rumely Oil-Pull, in 1918 and two years later bought a bigger one. This was so much more convenient than working with horses. They could work longer hours with the tractor, which never got tired. The big Rumely worked well on the threshing outfit in the fall once they got it started in the morning. If it was a cold morning, they would build a straw fire underneath it to warm it up. There was no self-starter and they had to crank it by turning a big spoked flywheel. About 1935 Milton, Gordon Sparks and Mr. Cone bought the first three rubber-tired tractors to come to Innisfail. These Allis Chalmers with the rubber tires were a big step forward from the steel-lugged wheels. Our first tractor with a self-starter was a John Deere Model A.

Mr. Oxtoby invested in some registered silver foxes about 1925. Elaborate pens were put up and they required quite a lot of care. He sold a number of pelts but then the fashion in furs changed; fox furs went out and mink came into style.

Milton Oxtoby and Roy Carr were great friends and used to ride horses together quite often, particularly to picture shows which were held at the old opera house which is now the Moose Hall. The pic-



Milton Oxtoby's airplane.

ture machine was hand operated at that time. When the first sound picture came into town Milton rode horseback to town in 60 degree below zero temperature to see and hear that airplane show. Milton obtained his flying license about 1930 in Calgary. He had a share with three other men in a Kar-Keen Coupe plane. They did some barnstorming and used to land on prairie sod and pasture fields. Milton liked to get at the controls and fly around home to scare the neighbors. Mr. Bert Fry declared Milton was standing on the wing and shouting down at him.

In the fall of 1937, Mr. & Mrs. George Oxtoby packed a few treasures in their light delivery and left for Vancouver where they celebrated their golden anniversary in Jan. 1940. Their four children went over for the occasion. One of the unusual features of the celebration was that the groom wore his wedding suit of fifty years ago. Eliza Ellen Oxtoby died on Sept. 27, 1940; George Oxtoby died Nov. 25, 1946; both are buried in Innisfail.

Milton bought the original farm from his parents and in turn his son, Orville has purchased from Milton. Milton still lives on the farm place in the original house built in 1910, which his children completely renovated in 1964. Sons Ralph, Russell and George have their own farms in the district and have families of their own.

Roy Oxtoby with his wife Mary has retired to Victoria. His sons Clifford Roy (Toby) and Fred farm in the area while sons Chester and Art live in Olds. Daughters Ethel and family live in Calgary and Pearl and her family live in Vancouver.

Pearl Garlick, widow, lives in Calgary. Her son Marvin Peterson farms at Langdon and son Allan Peterson, mechanic, lives in Calgary. One son George died in 1962.

Daughter Verna married Sandy Gerrard and they farm at Knee Hill Valley.

Mabel and Ed Holt and son Carl and family farm in Knee Hill Valley.

Children of Milton Oxtoby: Ralph, born July 31, 1919 — had four sons: Norman, Larry, Ken and Colin — Russell, born March 31, 1921 — has three children: Wayne, Heather and Brian — George, born July 29, 1926 — has four children Patricia, Gerald, Crystal and Myrna — Orville, born July 22, 1933 — has three children: David, Karen and Darryl.

Children of Roy Oxtoby: Arthur, born in January 16, 1919 — has three sons: Allan, Lenny and Stan — Chester, born in January 22, 1923 — Has seven children: John, Dian (Mrs. G. Patterson), Carol (Mrs. T. Stott), Dale, Yvonne, Pearl and Peter — C. Roy (Toby), born July 3, 1925 — has two daughters: Terry (Mrs. Dave Gerrard) and Jeralyn — Fred, born July 7, 1928 — has two sons: Gary and Stephen — Ethel born March 28, 1931 — has four children: Laurie, Kathy, Wayne and Joanne — Pearl born November 27, 1936 — has four children: Glen, Cindy, Linda and Vicky.

PIONEERS I REMEMBER by Frank O. West

Samuel James Curry: He was born in New Brunswick in 1851. He was a carriage maker by trade. He

came to Innisfail in partnership with his brother, Mr. Alexander Curry and opened a store here in 1892. In 1905 they incorporated the store and it was known as Curry Constantine Co. Ltd. Mr. Curry retired in 1911. It was S.J. Curry that was the first Mayor of Innisfail.

James Edward Fawdrey: J.E. Fawdrey was born in England in 1865. In 1890 he came to Innisfail and engaged in farming until 1894. He then entered the firm of G.W. West. In 1901 he took Mr. F.M. Rogers as a partner and engaged in his own business known as Fawdry and Rogers. This continued until 1906. Then this was sold to W.C. Patterson. Mr. Fawdrey took his old position with G.W. West again and remained there for many years. He was on the first town council and became mayor in 1907. He built many of the stores in Innisfail.

Peter Lewis Grasse: He was born in Ontario in 1859. In 1888 he was appointed farm instructor for the Indians on Saddle Lake Reserve. In 1891 he was transferred to Morley. Here in Innisfail he was employed by the Massey Harris & Co. from '97 to 1908. He was the first machine agent and later went into the flour feed and grain business.

William Ralph Wilson: He was born in Ontario in 1869. In 1903 Mr. Wilson opened a branch of the Union Bank at Innisfail.

E.B. Nowers: In the early years "E.B." and a partner brought more than 400 head of wild horses on the Flathead Indian reserve in Montana and trailed them most of the way to Innisfail. He was a clerk in the Canadian Bank of Commerce in Innisfail. He married J.D. Lauder's daughter, Lulu. They later went to Calgary where he became associated with P. Burns Co. They had two children.

Norman Badcock: He came to Innisfail from Calgary in 1921. He came west from England in 1911. He took over the premises that were originally "Miss Simpson the Chemist". He served the district for many years until his retirement.

Sandy Dundas: Sandy had the Royal Hotel in Innisfail. When prohibition came in he made the bar into an ice cream parlour. The Hotel burned down in 1922. He was an automobile enthusiast and had the agency for the "Overland" cars. After the burning of the hotel he went to Vancouver and started a pool room. Everyone from Innisfail that went to Vancouver, went to see Sandy. He knew more about what was happening in Innisfail than the Innisfailians'. Sandy Dundas died in 1971. His widow resides in Vancouver.

MR. AND MRS. G.W. PALMER by Mildred Smith

Mr. and Mrs. G.W. Palmer came to the district east of Innisfail in the spring of 1920 from South Dakota.

They farmed in the area and also had a blacksmith shop on the farm. Their family consisted of a

daughter and a son. Their daughter, Mildred (Mrs. Smith) lives in Innisfail. Their son, Marvin is married and farms in the Pine Lake area.

Mr. Palmer passed away in 1932. Mrs. Palmer stayed on the farm until retiring to the Autumn Glen Lodge in Innisfail in 1962.

MR. & MRS. ROBERT BALD PARK by Audrey Fox

Mr. & Mrs. Park arrived at Innisfail in the spring of 1900 and purchased a farm through S.P. Fream.

Mr. Robert B. Park was born in Glasgow, Scotland in 1854. In his younger days he had been a sailor, spending a few years in the Argentine Republic. On his return to Scotland he entered the brewery business with Mrs. Park's brother-in-law. This business was sold before coming to Canada.

In 1869 Kendall Sarah Purcell was born in Newmarket, England. Her family was in France during the Franco-Prussian war and at this time she lost one eye. She received her education in France and before her marriage to Mr. Park she worked as a post office employee.

The family, Mr. & Mrs. Park and children Bob and Jessie, travelled by boat from Glasgow to Montreal. The voyage took about one month with very rough seas and most of them suffered from sea sickness. There was a long train ride across Canada before arrival in Innisfail.

Robert Park raised Clydesdale horses. It was said he had about forty or fifty head of the finest horses in the district. In about 1910 to 1912 when Mr. Park was unable because of health reasons to look after his animals, the whole herd of horses was stolen. This seemed to take all his remaining energy and strength and on February 3, 1913, he died.

The outlook was very bleak for a widow with six small children, with her main source of income lost. The oldest child was only sixteen and so Mrs. Park hired the neighbors to seed and harvest the crops for the next few years. The family raised cattle, chickens, and a large garden. Two log barns were on the farm and near the house there was a natural spring that flowed winter and summer. The springs are still in the hillside but of course do not flow as rapidly now. As the family grew, the older children helped with the farm work and then were married and moved



L. to R.: Harold Knipe, Bob Park, Pearl Park, Frank Purcell (Mrs. Park's brother), Jessie Knipe, Mrs. K. S. Park, Jim Park, Tom Park, Percy Park, Walter Park.

away. Part of the taxes were paid by working on the roads. My father, Tom Park, stayed on the farm and cared for my Grandmother until she died in 1954.

The members of the family were:

Mr. Robert Frank Park, born in 1897, married Pearl Irene Munro Nov. 5, 1924. They have lived in Lacombe since 1929. Children: Art, Esther (McKinnon), Lorna (Hayworth) and Bill.

Jessie Park was born in 1898, married Harold Knipe. They have lived at Lacombe and Red Deer. Children: Lester and Walter.

James Park was born in 1901; married Susan Elizabeth Pearson Dec. 24, 1940. Jim was a grain buyer for U.G.G. for fourteen years and has farmed in the Blindman Valley for the last few years. Children: Laverne, Judy, Russell.

Thomas Quinn Park was born in 1903; married Catherine McGregor Dewie in 1933. Tom and his family farmed the home place at Innisfail. Children: Shirley (Kat), Audrey (Fox), Gwen (Leavett), Bernice (Leavett), Norman, John and Kathy.

Percy Kendall was born in 1905; married Mary Hutton and lived in Edmonton. Percy was the top salesman in Western Canada for Swift Canadian for many years. Children: June, Ken, Sandra, Bobby, Margaret, and Barbara. Percy died in 1958 and is buried in Edmonton.



Mr. and Mrs. Tom Park

Walter Park was born in 1907; married Inga Amundsen. They operate a service station and motel in Keremeas, B.C. Children: Allan and Bruce.

The farm was a gathering place for the neighbors in the early days. A long icy hill was used for sleigh riding and skating parties were held on the pond north of the house. In the summer they played ball and attended the local fairs and horse races.

The children walked to Innisfail and went to school in the old brick school. Attendance was sporadic because the snow was deep in winter and the roads impassible because of mud in the spring. The Park boys were known for their iron soled shoes. These shoes had leather uppers and soles made of iron. They wore forever, but the wearer was sure tired at the end of the day.

John A. Simpson, M.L.A. for the area for years, lived in town but owned our north quarter for a num-

ber of years. There was a lumber mill located about half way between the gate and the old barn. The old barn and the machine shed were built with lumber from this mill. Later the mill burned down.

In 1906 or 1907 the family bought the first horse-drawn binder in the district.

There is a story about Mrs. Barringham who with her husband owned a fruit store in town. She knew how to cure warts. The patient would arrive at her shop. She would take him into the back room, rub the warts with butter on a string, stuff the string down the patient's shirt collar, turn him around twice and send him home; the warts then disappeared in a few days.

Kemps owned the property where Bev Sunderman now lives. About 1920 Jim and Tom Park broke forty acres of this land with horses and a twenty inch breaking plow.

Art and Audrey Fox have worked and managed the farm since 1962 when Mr. & Mrs. Tom Park died. Both are buried in the Innisfail cemetery.

BERNARD PARSONAGE

I was born in Wrexham, North Wales in February, 1890. I had three sisters and one brother. I received my schooling and completed matriculation in Wales. My parents were farmers.

It was in 1911, that I went to New Zealand because of a wandering disposition. By boat it was three weeks before we reached Capetown and it looked good to me after being on the boat so long. From Capetown we went to Tazmania and then to New Zealand. When in New Zealand, I worked on sheep stations, but my job was with horses — hauling freight, putting in crops etc. I especially liked the idea of being my own boss. In 1913, I met Sam Holmes who also was working on the stations, but he was more with the sheep sections. Sam was originally from Ireland, but had come to New Zealand from High River, Alberta. The climate was good in New Zealand, but the opportunities Canada offered were better and so Sam and I left for High River. I had thought of going to Africa and England before going to Canada, but couldn't because of the war.

When we got to High River, Sam and I rented a half section west of the town. I came to Innisfail to buy a quarter section in 1915. This, I bought from Mr. Spurgeon. The next year I bought another quarter section from Mr. Frazer. The first trip I made to Innisfail was by train. There was still homestead land available near Caroline but Mr. Stewart, the land agent, said the Spurgeon land didn't have as much bush and it was so close to town. After being as much as 50 miles from town in New Zealand, the closeness of this land to town appealed to me.

When I first came to Innisfail I stayed at the Royal Hotel and got to know Sandy Dundas well. My first neighbors were Lester Wagers, Barkmeyers, Morris', John Honan, George Davidson and the Dodds'. I kept returning to High River "between times" and Sam came up here in 1917 for good. I had worked for George Davidson for about one and one-half years and remember Minnie Morton (Mrs. Lester Wagers) was working there at the same time and I taught her



"Wetmore Halflight"

how to drive the Davidson car. Because there was such a shortage of men at the time, I also taught Minnie how to handle the binder so she and Mrs. Davidson could do the cutting while we men did the stooking.

We did a lot of brush breaking with a tractor. I did my own and for Ernie Hughes and Bob McAllister and others. We did threshing too, mostly in the Antler Hill and Westholm areas.

I remember the wooden sidewalks Innisfail had. You had to be careful where you walked as a board could come up and knock you out. Dick Kremer had the Ford Garage, Kenny Kerr and Frank Anderson had livery barns. Jim (Slick) Slator was a "kind-of-vet". Wong Wo had the restaurant and there was Charlie Whitcombe, Johnny Ferguson and Billy Scott. "Holy Joe" Smith farmed in the Westholm district.

We used to go to lots of dances and did the one-step, two-step and minuet. Our way of getting to the dances was usually a wagon box on a sleigh with blankets and the gang could go together. We would get home about 5:30 in the morning, change our clothes and go to work.

I first sold grain to Hector McFadyen and later to the U.G.G. with Pete Grant as buyer. I was on the local board of the U.G.G. for over 30 years having been chairman and now honorary member. I bought and sold cattle to Izzie Kline. For more than twenty years I was a school trustee for Westholm and was a

member of the Feeder Association, a councillor on the M.D. of Arthur when the secretary was R.J. McMahon. I was on the church vestry of the Anglican Church for many years when Charlie Reeves was rector. I was president of the "Quarter Centry Club" of the Hereford Association. I was on the hospital board and a Mason and a Lion.

Fortunately, I didn't have much in machinery repairs as I was able to do it myself. The first tractor I bought was a Titan from J.T. Rogers in 1917. We used it in High River first. We brought it from Calgary to High River on gravel streets and with lugs to High River. We had to get a permit to use the streets from 10th Avenue to 2nd Street west in Calgary. The first car was a Model T and it was fine, but the next one was a McLaughlin-Buick and I have been driving G.M. ever since.

Ada Mary Morris and I were married in 1919 in Calgary. We have three children: Bob, born in 1920, Marie in 1927 and Gordon in 1930. Bob married Isobel Morrison and they have one child, Sandra. Marie married Dick Newton and they have two children: Dianne and Dan. Gordon married Arlene Purcell and they have three children: Dwane (already a cattle man), Kim (excellent with machinery at a young age) and Cathy.

In 1923, tragedy struck our home. At threshing time in the tractor we were using one half coal oil and one half gas. The cans had got mixed somehow and one Sunday morning my wife got up to light the fire and when she got the kindling in the stove, she poured from this can. She came out of the kitchen in flames. I quickly wrapped her in blankets. I phoned Dr. Turner. The kitchen was in flames, but we put that fire out. My wife was so badly burned (more than two-thirds of her body) it was a miracle she lived. Drs. Turner and Scott saved her. They grafted skin from me to her and it grew! This was written up in the medical journal.

I went into reg'd. cattle in 1944, but always had feeder cattle. Wilf Edgar, the Loughed Brothers and I went into partnership first with the Wetmore Halflight bull. We are still having production sales that have been going on for over twenty years. We deliver cattle to many parts of the States and Canada. I never went in for milking, as I hated to take the job away from the calves!

Rev. John Orton was a great man and I recall George Ingham going home very late one Christmas Eve and he saw someone with a wheelbarrow. It was Rev. John taking coal to the unfortunates. He supplied ambulance service for all using his McLaughlin Buick. It was when Rev. Orton was in High River someone made the bet of \$10 that he couldn't get up a very bad hill around Okotoks without changing gears. Rev. Orton won the bet as he went up in "first gear". No one said he had to go in high gear.

I returned to Wales in the winter of 1926-27 and went by boat. The next time I flew (1964) when going to the World Hereford Conference in Dublin. I remember my sister was there to meet me in Liverpool and a picture appeared in the Liverpool Evening



Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Parsonage and Sam Holmes.

Post with headlines reading "Sister Meets Brother After 37 Years & Recognizes Him By His 10 Gallon Hat".

My children attended school at Westholm and Marie and Gordon then came Innisfail and then each spent two years at the Olds Agricultural School.

It was on April Fools' Day that I left New Zealand, all those years ago and looking back, I know how good Canada has been to me and my family and I am glad I came.

THE HENRY PARTINGTON FAMILY by Mrs. Joyce Kaare (grand-daughter)

Mr. & Mrs. H. Partington were both born in England in 1870 and lived in Manchester, Lancashire, where Henry was a coal miner.

They had heard that the living and working conditions were much better in Canada, so Henry brought his wife Francis Anne (Shaw) and two children, Gladys Elizabeth and Harry, to Canada in 1900. After landing at Vancouver, Mr. Partington spent some time working in the mines around Trail and also lived in the Cloverdale area where they became acquainted with the Tom Wells Sr. family. Mr. Wells told them about the good farming land he had that was situated 3/4 of a mile east of the Hill End School. Mr. Partington bought the land sight unseen and moved the family by train to Hill End around 1906, where they farmed until his passing in 1947.

One day Mrs. Partington started to town with the team of horses and the democrat. A short distance from the farm, the horses bolted and ran away throwing her out to the side of the road. Her hip was broken and she was bedridden for some time. As a result of the accident, she was left with a stiff leg but in spite of the accident she carried on with a light hearted nature.

The farm was equipped with a large house, barn and other buildings. Mr. Partington farmed the land, sold cream and eggs and as the land had to be cleared, so the wood was cut up and sold as well to buy groceries. Everyone worked hard during those days to make money.

Mrs. Partington was a very friendly, jovial person with a lovely singing voice. She sang at many of the concerts and gatherings in the district. Later on she entertained her grandchildren with many delightful evenings of singing around the old organ. Mr. Partington had brought out from England some keep-

sakes, among them a telescope and swords from the Boer War. For many years they graced the walls of their home and have since been handed down to the grandchildren.

I was impressed as a child with the warmth and tenderness of "Grannie". There was always time for a smile, a song, and rolled oats lavishly poured on a piece of newspaper to melt in your mouth in the shade of the old house on a hot afternoon. Many are the fond trips with Grandpa, proudly, but quietly riding up beside him on the seat of the horse-drawn wagon out to saw trees 'over yonder' for firewood for the long winter. While he sawed, we children gathered hazelnuts.

Gladys and Harry first went to the Hill End School. Some of their classmates were: Laura Eastman, Hazel McMillan, Annie and Minnie Pixley, Annie and Johnny Niblock, Chris Songhurst, Tom Ford, Donald Blake, Maggie and Mable Bilton, Claus and Gilbert Goldstrom, Frances Laing, Amelia Hall, Clinton and Tom Day; Mable Snider remained a very dear friend of my mother's until her death in 1949.

Gladys Elizabeth was born in England in 1900. She was three years of age when she arrived in Canada. While a girl, she took organ lessons by correspondence and practised on the old organ in their home. After leaving school, she stayed on and helped on the farm. In 1922 she married Roland Whitman Densmore and they lived for a time in the Hill End District before moving to Red Deer. They had seven children. One daughter, Elsie, passed away as an infant. The other surviving children are Olive, Phyllis, Harry, Joyce, Kathleen and Mildred.

Harry Partington was born in England in 1902, and came to Canada as a baby. He was left partially crippled from a back injury as an infant. As a young lad, he always enjoyed and studied animals, especially dogs and horses. He equipped his dogs with a harness and sleigh and spent many enjoyable hours with his dog team. Henry Partington died July 13, 1947 at age 77; Frances Partington died May 23, 1940 at age 66; Gladys Densmore died Dec. 21, 1949 at age 49; Harry Partington died in 1923 at age 21. All are interred in the family plot at Horn Hill.

HARRY W. PAUL by Dean Paul

Harry W. Paul accompanied by his wife Annie E. (nee Powers), and sons Clyde, Glen and Dean moved to the Horse Shoe Lake District in March, 1920. They came from Shepard, Alberta where they had farmed since 1909.

He brought stock with him and raised Shorthorn cattle and Percheron horses. Mrs. Paul spent some years in Innisfail where she operated a dressmaking and tailoring business.

Early Innisfailians we knew were Frank Anderson, Dave Arnell, Alec Munro, G.W. West and Frank West and the Watts.

Our first neighbors in the Horse Shoe Lake district were A. Black, Wm. Robinson, Alex MacDonald and the Smiths Sr. It was in the spring of 1927 that the family moved to the Markerville district.



Mr. and Mrs. Partington and daughter Gladys

Clyde moved to Calgary about 1930 where he operated a motorcycle shop until 1957. He is now retired in Calgary and has two children Susan and Donald.

Glen graduated from the Innisfail High School, and taught school in various places until 1939 when he went overseas with the R.C.A.F. He transferred to the R.A.F. and returned home in 1946. He spent several years in Edmonton and is now retired at Eureka, California. He has one daughter, Barbara.

Dean is farming in the Markerville area and has five children: David (in Calgary), Charlene (in Vancouver) and Harry, Agnes and Richard at home.

My first impressions of Innisfail was that it was a town where you hauled wood, or carried in coal and then carried out the ashes.

Mr. Paul Sr. passed away in 1947 at the age of 74 years. Mrs. Paul passed away in 1967 at the age of 96 years.

CLAUD PAULL by Mrs. McGorman

William Paull had been impressed with the reports of relatives, Otto, Lionel and Andrew Lamb, who had homesteaded north of Bowden. In 1906, William and son Claude sold their land at Cottonwood, Idaho and came to Innisfail to look for land, deciding on good unimproved land at Horse Shoe Lake. Later that year, Mrs. Paull and the three youngest daughters, Era, Madge, and Viola arrived. The three girls received their education at Horse Shoe Lake, Innisfail and Red Deer. Era married Carroll McCaw and they went back to Yakima in 1916 with Mr. & Mrs. Paull, Madge, and Viola.

Claude filed on a homestead across the Red Deer River near what is now the town of Rowley. It took him five years to fulfill homestead requirements as well as operate the Horse Shoe Lake land. In 1919 he married Martha Wilson, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. John Wilson. They had one son William (Bill) born in 1920, who went to school at Horse Shoe Lake and Innisfail High School. Bill enlisted in the Army in 1941 and served overseas until the close of the war. In 1943 he married Helen Zeidic, Acme; their son William Lee was born in 1949 at Brooks. Bill died in 1965 in Calgary. His Mother, Martha Paull, died in 1961. Mr. Claude Paull, 91 years old, in 1973 is living at the Autumn Glen Lodge, Innisfail.

PENDERGAST STORY by Howard Pendergast

On March 20, 1900, the train left Franktown, Ontario with settlers for Alberta. Among those making the trip were William Schwerdfeger family, Frank Lockwood, Bill Forester and Joe Carl. Also on the same train were the William Henry Pendergast family. His wife, Anne Jane and their seven children: William, Mary, Samuel, Howard, John, Julia and Willard. They all settled in and around Horse Shoe Lake area in Alberta, having arrived in Innisfail, March 27, 1900.

William and Anne Jane Pendergast moved with their family onto the Tom Stanway place. They had left Ontario because work was scarce and the pay was worse. Howard (me) had worked in the shingle mill in Ontario for 10c an hour and we all soon found out



Pendergast Family: L. to R.: back row — Mary, Sam, Will; front row: Mr. Pendergast, Howard, John, Mrs. Pendergast, and baby Willard.

that conditions were not too much better in Alberta. I worked all summer in the hayfield for Tom Buckham for \$15. and Sam and Will worked on the railroad on the extra gang.

In 1902 William and three of the boys filed on homesteads. The family homesteaded the whole of section 16, Township 34, Range 27, W. 4th. William had the southeast quarter, Samuel the southwest, William Jr, the northeast and Howard the northwest. John homesteaded northeast of the present townsite of Wimbourne and had the first Wimbourne post office.

The Horse Shoe Lake School was built one-half mile north of Howards' and when the children were going to school there in the early '20's, most of them were related in one way or another.

In the summer of 1902, the family moved from the Stanway place to Williams' homestead. He had built a log house, but there were still no doors or windows. A hail storm hit and everyone was in the hayfield except William Sr. and Julia who was then four years old. Dad had wrapped her in a quilt and set her in the middle of the floor. The hail stones were coming in one side of the house and bouncing out the other.

It wasn't all hard work. Many were the house parties and school-house dances. Dress up clothes were scarce, but clean overalls were the accepted dress most of the time.

If dress-up clothes were scarce, money was still scarcer. Butter was taken at the stores in exchange for food and clothing, but never sold for cash. One time Aunt Jane had a letter to mail to her mother in Ontario, but had no money for a stamp. The storekeeper at Knee Hill Valley said "there is nothing to say, I can't give you a 3c stamp".

There must have been time for romance as the whole family married. William Jr. married Annie Jacobs on February 10, 1902. Annie died about 1921. William later married Viola Buckler. Mary

married Robert Smith on December 12, 1900. Samuel married Sarah Jardine on July 24, 1907. Howard married Annie Jardine on March 10th 1909. John married Mabel Berry in 1910. Julia married Clark Bennett in 1917 and Willard Married Mary Flynn in 1918.

Family of William:

Verna (Mrs. Kenneth Jardine), Lena (Mrs. Willard Bennett), Hazel (Mrs. Wallace Buckler), Iris (Mrs. Stan Dobson), Kenneth, Lorna (Mrs. Ralph Bos) and William.

Family of Mary (Mrs. Robert Smith): Norman, John, and Allan — see Smith story.

Sams' family:

Vera (Mrs. Joe Mannix), Olive (Mrs. Wm. Harrison), Russell, Willard (Jim), Alma (Toots) is Mrs. Gordon Gray, Lois (Bon) is Mrs. Clarence Gray, Jean (died as a child), Phyllis (Mrs. Stewart Quartly), Hugh and Margaret.

Family of Howard:

Cecil, Vivian (Mrs. George McArthur), Alice (Mrs. James Campbell, Edna (Mrs. Darryl Harnett, Irma (died as a child), Laurence, Beth (Mrs. Jack Sanderson), Keith, Joyce (Mrs. K. Radloff), Velma (Mrs. Bill Brown) and Levonne (Bonnie) is Mrs. Milton Brandon.

Family of Willard:

Dorothy (Mrs. H. Guard), Earl, Gordon, Francis (deceased), Doreen (deceased), Fern (deceased), Wilda (Mrs. Carl Heron.)

Family of Julia (Bennett)

Charles, Illene (Mrs. Hugh Dalgetti), Ray, Ruth (Mrs. Bill Conway), June (Mrs. A. Burton), Violet (Mrs. Evan Gans), Donald, Iva (deceased) and Lloyd (deceased.)

Before finishing my story, I would like to tell some of the things I remember so vividly of long ago:

There were many times in the winter or early spring when the colts, calves and young pigs were brought into the house and put on a horse blanket at the end of the kitchen stove to keep them warm and alive. Also, there were many times when the young fowl had to be kept alive in the same manner.

I remember too, that we had a horse that any number of people could ride. Once the children didn't have rubbers to wear to school so the five of them rode "Pleas" to school. That horse was a great one and I am sure many in Innisfail will remember her as William used to drive her to haul the mail for many years.

Then too, there was the time I took a load of grain to Innisfail and someone said "Howard, don't you know how cold it is?" — It was 40° below. I then bought a thermometer and took it home. I threw it away tho' as I knew I would never get a damned thing done while I had that thing.

DAVE PERRIE by Elsie Fordyce

My father was born near Brussels, Ontario in 1893 of Scottish ancestry. He was a farmer and livestock-man in Ontario and suffered with asthma; he came out to work in the Kelsy, Sask. area in 1916 for a few months, decided he liked the west and returned from



Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Perrie

Ontario to settle in Innisfail in 1917, accompanied on the trip by Jim Dixon, a horse buyer. He worked for farmers for a few years, then bought a farm from Tom McMillan selling this to buy land 4 miles east and 2-1/2 miles south of Innisfail. By this time his parents, Mr. & Mrs. Wm. Perrie, sister Margaret and brother Leslie (who came after discharge from the army) had also settled in the Innisfail area.

Dave was always well known for his horsemanship and handsome teams of horses. He raised Tamworth hogs and registered Jersey cattle on his farm after Fred Pollock helped him to break it in 1924.

I recall his laughter when he told of one summer evening when his tame ducks were banging the screen door by means of pulling a loose wire. They had got him out of bed twice that night which made him most unhappy, so when the door started banging the third time he grabbed the broom and proceeded to scatter the ducks only to find it was a neighbor, Allan Smith, who was stuck in the mud north of our home and had come for help.

He married Norah Anne Pollock in July 1920, one of the early school teachers for Pleasant Valley, Milnerton, Steadman and Horse Shoe Lake schools. They had one daughter, Elsie, who married Alfred



Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Perrie, Mr. and Mrs. Dave Perrie, and Elsie.

Fordyce and now lives in Trochu. They have two daughters, Sandra and Janice.

My grandparents, Mr. & Mrs. Wm. Perrie lived in Innisfail and I stayed with them during the week and attended school in Innisfail. Dad drove the team in to pick me up every Friday and brought me back every Sunday night regardless of weather or road conditions. Donna West was one of my schoolmates. I played with neighbor's children when they came to visit: Mr. & Mrs. Fred Hobbs, Bert Hunts, Fox, Thompsons, Sissons, and Lalor families. My grandmother's home was well known to a lot of people who enjoyed her hospitality.

Internment in the Innisfail Cemetery: William Perrie died Mar. 3, 1944, 83 years. Mrs. Wm. Perrie died Dec. 12, 1946, 79 years. Norah Perrie died Dec. 2, 1958, 65 years. Dave Perrie died Apr. 27, 1969, 75 years.

Internment in Edmonton Cemetery: Margaret Perrie (Mrs. H. Gray) May 1927, 27 years. Leslie Perrie Oct. 27, 1970, 74 years.

PERROTT FAMILY by Wm. Perrott

The Perrott family — Thomas, Mary and children William, Annie and Kathleen, — arrived in Red Deer June 3, 1920 amazed to find three feet of snow. They rented a house on the corner of Gaetz Avenue across from the Alpha Milk and next to the English church. Dad worked in a lumber yard, Kittie was typist in Wellivers office, Annie worked in a store, and Willie worked as a carpenter. Dad was born in Cork Ireland in 1884, mother in Askeaton, Ireland in 1887 and we children in 1900, '02, '04 in Limerick. In Ireland father had been steward for Lord Lansdown feeding cattle. and I had served 6 years apprenticeship in the grocery trade.

Dad bought the Morton Farm west of Whiteside's and the family all moved there July 1, 1920. Later we got a 1/2 section across the road that was all bush, so there was plenty of work milking 18 cows, feeding pigs, and cutting bush. Shortly after we got started, Mother, who was a good nurse, went to the different homes as mid-wife.

I married Marjorie Barkemeyer in 1928 and moved to Innisfail to work for G.W. West and Son from 1929 to 1968. During these years I was a member of the Fire Brigade from 1945 until the present day. I have been with the Militia from 1939 to 1962 receiving the Queen's Medal and Long Service



Bill and Marj Perrott — at the farm.

Medal. From 1940 to 1962 I was Chief Instructor of the 1009 Army Cadets. Marjorie and I have two girls: Margaret, born in 1929, worked in the Royal Bank in 1946; married Alec Cameron in 1951 and moved to Medicine Hat. They have one son, Randy. Shirley, born in 1932, attended U. of A., Univ. of St. Paul, and U.B.C. completing degrees in Biochemistry. She married Lennie Yee; they have one son Kelly.

I remember in 1934 when the unemployed men of Innisfail worked for 25c an hour credit and dug a ditch 7' wide and 12' deep from the Innisfail Hotel to the Cenataph. The ditch was then filled with rock, brush and straw and covered with gravel thus forming a french drain to get rid of the quicksands under the main street.

My mother returned to Ireland in 1934 to live with our oldest sister Elizabeth who had married and remained there; Dad sold our farm to Roy Scott in the 1940's and moved to Lacombe to farm.

HISTORY OF THE PERCY FAMILY by R.H. (Dick) Percy

Henry James Percy was born in Plymouth, England in 1886. His father, Richard Percy, was in the bakery business. He had two sons, William and Henry and seven daughters. The two boys followed in their father's footsteps, going into the bakery business.

In 1906 Henry married Sarah Ann Curtis. The wedding took place in the village of North Lew, Devonshire. Three girls were born in England; Joy, Etta and Blanche.

In 1912, "H.J." decided to immigrate to Canada. He came to Lacombe and worked on a farm for his uncle, Charles Waldern. Two months later he moved to Calgary to work in the Tregilis Brick Yard. He then arranged to have the family come to Canada and they arrived that fall to reside in Calgary. It was a short time later he went to work for the Golden West Bakery in Calgary. In September, 1913, their first son, Richard, was born in Calgary. In the spring of 1914 they moved to Medicine Hat where he worked for J.B. Richardson Bakery.

In August, 1914, H.J. Percy came to Innisfail and purchased the bakery business from Mr. Tom White. The family moved here a few weeks later coming by train. The business was small, but H.J. was a hard worker, a good business man and Mrs. Percy worked right along with him to build up a well established business. It was all hand work, no electricity or water systems. Wood was used for fuel and cut in cord lengths. There were no single loaves of bread, all twos' and fours'. Dad started work at four o'clock in the morning and you would quite often find him working at ten o'clock the same night. We lived in the back of the bakery building and it was home to a lot of people who had come here from around Plymouth. One very good friend was Reg Crispin. Dad taught him a few things in the Bakery and he enlisted in the army as a baker. John Fry was another who had a common bond, their homeland. Maude Larratt was a very close friend, almost a second mother to the family.

On October 11, 1915, their second son Earl was born. He is a native son of Innisfail. In 1917 Dad purchased the house next door. He had it remodeled and it became the Percy home. The Dallas family lived next door and we all grew up together as much at home in one house as the other.

I remember so well George S. Kirkham getting ready for the Orangeman parade and living so close by, would wake us at 3:30 in the morning practicing. There would be Fleet, Tom and George Kirkham and Tom White.

Dad was very interested in sport being an ardent soccer player. Mother was a staunch supporter of the Anglican Church and worked for various women's groups. In 1919 the bakery was sold to Mr. John Friskin and we moved to Drumheller to take over the bakery there. It was a short stay of nine months when it was sold and Dad again bought the Innisfail Bakery back. In 1924, Dad again sold the bakery to Mr. Charles Ellston and we moved to Ponoka to take over the bakery and grocery store there. Less than a year later it was sold and Dad opened a bakery in Red Deer. The Innisfail bakery was for sale and he bought it again so for a short while he had two bakeries. He decided to sell the Red Deer one and we moved back to Innisfail.



Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Percy

In 1926, Etta married Raymond Lux and they moved to the farm at Ponoka. Earlier Etta had played the piano at the Silent movies at the Old Opera House. Mother and Dad used to put on the lunches for the occasion. Etta and Raymond had four children: Doreen (Mrs. Gordon McClafin) of Drumheller. They have 2 children. Bob of Ponoka, They have 4 children. Joan (Mrs. Lorne Ward) of Ponoka, they have 4 children and Norma (Mrs. Ron Cave) of Ponoka. They have 4 children.

In 1927 Joy married Thomas McWhinnie. They lived in Innisfail for about two years before moving to British Columbia. Joy and Thomas had five children: Gwen (Mrs. Dave Llewellyn) of Quenelle B.C., they have 3 children. Frank at Ladysmith, B.C., Art of Kelowna, they have 1 child, Allan of Stettler, they have 3 children and Ronald of Calgary. They have 2

children. Joy later married Don Manuel and she resides in Innisfail.

Dad was again active in the community, serving a term on the Town council and school board. He was an active Mason being Past Master, and a Past Patron of the Order of the Eastern Star. Dad was on the Volunteer Fire Brigade, and later years, Dick and Earl also were members. Dick and H.J. had to get off because of burning too many cookies that would be in the oven when the siren rang.

In 1929 Dick went into the bakery business with his Dad.

In 1932, Blanche married William Pickford and moved to Vernon, B.C. to make their home. Blanche and Bill had two children: Anne (Mrs. Wally Taylor) of Terrace, B.C. (they have 2 children) and Richard who resides in Edmonton. William Pickford passed away and later Blanche married Clarence French and they live in Vancouver.

In 1935 Dick married Betty Marchant, the local dancing teacher. Betty is still teaching dancing in Innisfail today (1973). Dick and Betty have three children: Dawn (Mrs. Daryl Tronnes) of Calgary, Jerry of Edmonton and Lynn (Mrs. Doug Garraway) of Barry, Ontario. Each have four children.

Dad decided to leave the bakery business in 1935 and go into the horse racing business. He raced horses for thirty-three years in Canada, U.S.A. and Mexico. He was very active in the association being President of the Horsemen's Protective Benevolent Association for six years. Therefore, Dick took over the operation of the Bakery and Earl took the Confectionery.

In 1941 Earl married Fay McAllister and they are still in business and reside in Innisfail. Earl and Fay have one daughter: Cherie (Mrs. Darryl Smith) and they live in Edmonton, and have 3 children.

Dick served on the Town Council for four years and was Mayor for two years. He sold the Bakery in 1962 to George Vanderham and went into the business of Manufacturers' Life Insurance which he is still active with today. Earl is following in his Father's footsteps inasmuch as he too is active in racing horses and is on the Horsemen's Benevolent Protective Assn.

Mother and Dad had the good fortune to celebrate their Golden and Diamond Wedding Anniversaries. H.J. Percy passed away in 1969 at the age of 83 years. Mrs. Percy is still in fairly good health and has one great-great grandchild. She has been an exceptional member of the Order of the Eastern Star, taking a very active part and all her family including the daughters-in-law are members of this order.

CHARLIE PETERS FAMILY by Mrs. Claud Dancy

They came to the Innisfail district in 1892. They lived in Innisfail for some time, as Charlie Peters and another fellow had the old Royal Hotel for awhile. Mabel Peters, my mother, took some of her schooling at the Innisfail School. Mabel and Rose were the two children from Grandad Peters first family; he was

married for the second time when they came to Canada from Walla Halla, South Dakota.

From Innisfail, the family moved to the Aberdeen district and then to Honey Moon Lake which now is called Racks Lake. Their house was a half-way place for people going to Pine Lake (which at that time was called Ghost Pine). In the second family, there were six children: Jack, Emma, Eva, George (who lost his life in WWII), Leslie, Floyd, and two small children who are buried on the old John Calvert place in the Calder district.) Mabel and the rest of the children finished their schooling at the Calder school. When Mum married Jim Darragh in 1905, her father moved to Borden, Saskatchewan. Charlie Peters' second wife (mum's step-mother) passed away there and a cousin kept the rest of the children. By that time Ross and Jack were married. After his wife's death, Grandad moved the two youngest children to the States where the boys took up logging. Floyd passed away some time ago and Leslie logged up until last year when he had a heart attack. He has retired now.

There were many hardships but in those days people had time to visit, and they seemed to be so happy. My mum worked in the hay field with one baby in a basket and carried the other. After working all day in the field she would go home to make a meal and finish the day by milking 15 cows, separating, feeding pigs and calves, and always with a smile and time for anybody who might pass by. I never heard my mother complain, grumble or speak a wrong word. What a marvelous example we children had.

Mabel Anne Peters (Darragh) passed away on Sept. 21, 1972, buried in Innisfail. Allan Peters is also buried in the same cemetery. Leslie Peters lives in Springfield, Oregon. Eva Peters (English) lives in Vancouver, B.C.

CHARLES F. PETERSON by Vivian Ives

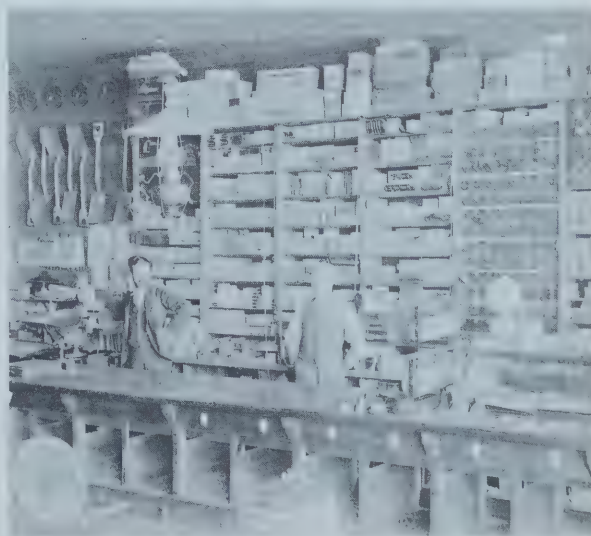
My Dad's parents, Mr. & Mrs. C.L. Peterson were pioneer residents of Didsbury. My dad was born in Kitchener, Ontario in 1871. The family moved west and Dad worked for McBrides' in Calgary (pioneer hardware merchants). He believed Innisfail to be a good trading centre and he thought it a good place to start up a hardware store. I think he came there in 1898 or 1899, from Calgary. On December 31, 1900 he married Annie Laura Durant of Kitchener. Annie was a good friend of Mrs. Playle. Dad often talked of the "remittance men" from England — how "green" they were and of the jokes the poor men had played on them. Dad was a Mason and a staunch Methodist. I think his wife was organist in their church. He was a close friend to the Constantine family; and of Austin Clemens. In 1903 Austin Clemens married Mabel Constantine and I have a clipping from the "Weekly Herald News" of 1904 saying, "Messrs. Austin Clemens and Chas. Peterson, the latter a son of Mr. C.L. Peterson, leave on Tuesday next for Regina, the Capital of the North West Territory, where they purpose starting up in the hardware business. Both young men through long experience are thorough hardware men and their success in that distant city, we feel cer-



Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Peterson taken Jan. 1, 1901.

tain, is assured. They have the very best wishes of THE NEWS."

Dad and his wife Annie lived above their hardware store in Innisfail. I believe the reason they moved was that the store was destroyed by fire and they lost all their belongings. They moved to Tisdale, Saskatchewan in 1904 and his wife Annie died there in 1919. Mother and he were married in 1920 and I was born the following year, Dad's only child. Dad corresponded with Frank Constantine in Cranbrook. Mother is still alive, but like me, knows little about Dad's life in Innisfail. He died in Nanaimo in 1954, where I live with my husband, Ronald Ives.



Mr. Peterson in hardware store.

JOHN PHILLIPS by George Gordon Phillips

Mr. & Mrs. John Phillips came by steamboat from Northumberland, England to Alberta in 1911. For awhile, Mr. Phillips worked on farms in the Calgary area and then heard of work in the Innisfail area, moving here with his family later that year.

George Gordon Phillips was 14 years old when the family arrived in Innisfail; he worked as a farm labourer in the district until joining the 21st Reserve in 1917. Land was cleared by hand in those days; as a farm labourer he got \$5 a month plus room and board — he could make more cutting wood. His only recreation was playing soccer — they played Innisfail, Bowden and Olds. When Gordon returned from the war in 1919, he bought a 1/4 section of land.



Mr. Hugh MacDougal and Mr. John Phillips.

He can remember his first sow, a Berkshire. He took her to another farm to get her bred. She farrowed 10 pigs. When he was ready to sell pigs, he put a top on the wagon and hauled them into Innisfail. In the 30's he got about \$1.50 per pig and could buy a cow for \$5. He married Margaret Leveetta Arnold in October 1926. She was born in Bowden and lived in the Buffalo Creek district until married. They have six daughters: Mrs. W. (Bella) Hainstock — Calgary; Mrs. L. (Thelma) Folkard — Calgary; Mrs. V. (Georgina) Jegou — Innisfail; Mrs. C. (Beverly Ann) Jegou — Fort McMurray; Mrs. C. (Elizabeth) Phillips — Ellerslie, P.E.I. and Mrs. E. (Darlene) Tarbay — Innisfail.

W.E. PICKFORD by Mary A. (Pickford) Morton

Mr. & Mrs. W.E. Pickford came to Innisfail from Nelson B.C. He had been born in London, England in 1883. It was thru' a real estate agent in Calgary who arranged for an exchange of property that caused them to move to Innisfail in Nov. 1923. He was accompanied to Innisfail by his wife and two children: Mary & William. Mr. Pickford had worked on the boats on Kootenay Lake as a mate before coming to Innisfail district. He farmed here until 1931 when

they moved to Vernon, B.C. Mrs. Pickford was the former M.E. Ritchie and they were married in London, England in 1903.

I (Mary) married Thos Morton and reside in Innisfail and brother Bill married the former Blanche Percy. He died in 1951.

The families I remember when first coming here were the Wests, the George Bryans and the W. Champs.

WILLIAM EZRA PIXLEY by Richard Will Pixley

My father William Ezra Pixley was born in Sydenham, Ontario, County Frontenac, November 1, 1879. My mother, Lily Hornett came with her parents Mr. & Mrs. Leonard Hornett from England in 1891. She was born at Wards farm, Rodnage, Buckinghamshire, England.

Father came to Innisfail in 1901 via C.P.R.. He had an urge for adventure and was looking for "the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow". He had worked in Manitoba for a year before he came this far west. In Ontario he had helped his father at the home farm.

My mother and father were married at the Red Deer Methodist Church, March 5, 1903. They had four children: Minnie Sarah; m. Basil George Evans and lived in the Hill End district; Annie Althea; m. John Perry Domoney and lived in the Horn Hill district; Richard Will; m. Lillian Irene Tolley and lives in Innisfail; Edmund Leonard died at the age of two years.

Mr. & Mrs. W.E. Pixley homesteaded in the Hill End District (about 10 miles east of Innisfail). Mr. Pixley was a very successful farmer. He was reeve of the Municipal district of Pine Lake for 17 years. He raised Thoroughbred horses and had many ribbons and trophies he had won for his fine horses. They showed horses at a good many places including Calgary, Edmonton, Red Deer, Victoria, Vancouver, Regina, Seattle (Washington) and many smaller places.

They farmed until 1943 when they sold out and moved to Agassiz, B.C.

They were only there a few years when tragedy struck. On July 20, 1949 Father, his daughter Minnie, granddaughter Joyce, brother-in-law (Gordon Healy all died in a car accident at Revelstoke, B.C. His daughter Annie died as the result of an accident with a horse April 19, 1969.

Minnie & B.G. Evans had 4 children: Bill, Roy, Hazel and Joyce. Annie and J.P. Domoney had 2 children: Evelyn (m. R. Quartley) and Betty (m. M. McCaughtery). My wife and I are blessed with 7 children: Laurence Richard m. Florance Broadstock. He is a Det/Sgt with the Calgary City Police; Shirley Irene m. Dr. Reginald Moore and resides at Waterloo, Ontario; Stanley Edmund m. Margaret Cowie and he is with the R.C.M.P. in Peace River; Marvin Lewis m. Norma Wilding. He is in real estate in Calgary; Norman Gary m. Linda Jones and he is with the Calgary City Police; Sharon Gail is teaching in Edmonton; Naida Lillian m. Donald Jones of

Calgary and was a stenographer. All our children attended school in Innisfail.

ARTHUR POLLOCK STORY by Fred Pollock

Arthur Pollock was born in Ontario in 1867. He married Annie Lackey of Emsdale in 1889 at Brace Bridge, Ontario. They came to Alberta seeking land. They were accompanied by a family of five and a young man named Neil McFadyen. It took ten days in a colonization car by rail before reaching Innisfail.

They had farmed in Ontario before coming here to farm. For three years they farmed with oxen before acquiring horses. The house and barn were built of native poplar logs. The house still stands on the farm. The early settlers were threatened many times with prairie fires and these would cover large areas.

Neil McFadyen went to B.C. and worked in lumber woods. He then sent his wages to help the family until they could get started. Then Mr. Pollock paid him back.

Some of the first neighbors were Mr. & Mrs. Gentry, William Hewitts', Fred Mainwarings, Edwin Heathers and the Jardines. The Jardines were a large family and we would often see one another in the evenings while we would be rounding up cattle for milking which were feeding on open prairie.

The winter of 1906-07 was very cold — 40 below for six weeks at a time. It took lots of fire wood and the man of the house stayed up most of the night to keep the fires burning. We would look forward to summer picnics and Xmas concerts with much enthusiasm. Any dollars obtained were from milking cows, and having a few pigs and chickens.

Names of the family in order were: Nora Anne married David Perry of Innisfail. Ella Mae who married Charles Watson of Innisfail. Frederick Arthur who married Rachel Marshall of Innisfail. Allan Henry who married Blanche Vallandigham of San Francisco, California. Elizabeth (Bessie) married Jack Fairburn of Kelowna and Pearl who married Murray McKenzie of Kelowna. Nora and Ella attended normal school at Camrose and then returned to teach at several local schools. Fred (me) farmed and am now retired on the home place. Allan went to U.S.A. and was a diesel mechanic. Bessie and Pearl



Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Pollock

were born in Alberta and both took nurses training, Bessie at the Holy Cross in Calgary and Pearl in Vancouver General and then nursed in Kelowna.

We attended the Pleasant Valley school. School mates were the Moffats, Holts, Darnells, Wynns, Heathers. Early teachers were Misses Moak, Tindahl, Whealon, McDiarmid, McArthur and Shearer (Nan Hodge).

The thing I used to like best was to be able to get my gun and go hunting rabbits, prairie chicken, partridges and ducks. This augmented our meat supply greatly.

Early pioneers I recall were G.W. West, George Bryan, Wm. Geary, Teddy Onsum, L.M. McLean and the Watt Bros. I remember it caused some excitement when the Watt Brothers drove their first car out to the Knee Hill Valley district.

I am a fifty year member of the Wheat Pool along with Clarence Layden and Leslie Rutherford.

It was in 1927 that my parents went to Kelowna and made their home at Okanagan Mission. Mother died in 1945 and Dad in 1947. Both were interred in Kelowna. Nora (Perrie) died in 1958 and was buried in Innisfail. Pearl (McKenzie) died in 1965 and was buried in Kelowna.

NOBEL POTTER by Mrs. Albert Hibbert and Ed Potter

Nobel Potter, his wife Matilda four sons and one daughter came to homestead in the Calder district arriving in Innisfail in 1900. They came from Ontario. He had been a woodsman there. Their daughter and son-in-law (Mr. & Mrs. James Layden) had come here in 1898 and this is one of the reasons for the Potters making the decision to come to the land of opportunity — where there would be better advantages for his family. They built a log shack, with a sod roof and log barns. The boys worked for other farmers too. They attended Calder school after it was built in the spring of 1903. Daughter Sarah (Sadie) was the first girl married at Calder with a dance at their home to celebrate the occasion. Children from this union were: Francis married Ethel Rollinson of Innisfail. Sadie married Samuel Ennis in 1903. Obie married Isabelle Gould. Andrew married Margerite Garden. Stanley died in the Innisfail hospital in 1923.

Some of the early neighbors were Joseph Sargents, George Calverts, George Kirkhams, these being all from back home in Ontario.

There were lots of cold winters, but sleighs and horses helped in getting the 15 miles to town. We didn't spend much money. Tea and tobacco we got for sure. Patches and made-overs we all were glad to get and we were always ready to help others. There were very few dollars to spend, but we were all alike. For food there were lots of prairie chickens, ducks and large gardens plus the milk and eggs on the farms. Some grain was sown and reaped and lots of prairie wool hay stacked from open land there.

One spring morning Mr. Potter went outside and found a man sitting on their rail fence. He got up and went on. They wondered why or who this was. Later,



Mr. and Mrs. Joe Potter Family. L. to R., back row: Joe Potter, Lorne, Eddie, Deb, Roy; front row: Mrs. J. Potter, Elizabeth, Gertrude, Hazel, and Martha.

Frank walked across the school section to James Laydens. The man was lying across the trail and about scared Frank Stiff. He ran around the clump of willows to Laydens, told his story and Mr. Layden rode a horse back to Potters to get help. They saw this tramp as we called him walk towards Laydens. He went to Thurstons and asked for water. Later we found he'd murdered a man near Red Deer — took his horse and saddle and yet was walking. He was later caught near Calgary. He was Cashell. This gave us a mystery not easily forgotten . . . happening in 1904.

Folks who dropped by were always appreciated and a change of ideas and news was always offered. Then too, the wildflowers, crocus, buttercups, shooting stars, yellow beans and lots of grass and hay were the wonders of beauty to us in those early days beginning the new century.

G.W. West, an Innisfail merchant, was a friend to all in need. It took friendship and understanding to help everyone to survive then and he had both in abundance. Homesteads of 160 acres were for 10 dollars with 3 years living on and 15 acres of prairie sod broken to make this your own property. It sounded good. Some sold it for very little and went, but those who stayed with it were never sorry.

Mrs. Potter died in July 1917 and Nobel in Oct. of 1917 and were nearly the first to be buried in our beautiful Innisfail cemetery.



Joe, Obie, Frank and Andrew Potter.

REES POWELL by Rebecca (Powell) Smith

Rees Powell, a farmer from Breconshire, South Wales, came to the Innisfail district on the advice of his doctor to find a change of climate. He arrived in 1911 and found work with the farmers and on the roads. When he was working from the town line to Pine Lake, the boss of the road crew couldn't remember his name, Rees, and called him "Chappie", which he came to be known by.

Chappie's wife, Esther Haines Merthyr Tydfil, came from South Wales with their three year old daughter, Rebecca, to join her husband in 1912. Their passage was booked for the "Titanic" but when Esther's father had a dream about the ship, he and mother had it changed for another ship.

Dad had told mother to go to the Royal Hotel and ask for his whereabouts when she arrived. When she did, she asked for Rees Powell and no one seemed to know him. When Sandy Dundas, the owner of the hotel came, he said, "You must be looking for Chappie, the man with the gold sovereigns." Mother was horrified and said she was looking for no chappie!



Mr. and Mrs. Rees "Chappie" Powell.

They lived in Knee Hill Valley on Tom Jensen's farm which Dad later purchased. Anthony Smith, Jim Jensen, W.E. Nolan, Jack Nolan, Bill Saunders, Geo. Brownell, and Alf Wilton (who ran the KHV store) were their neighbors.

In the summer, Indians would come and camp across the road from our gate. As mother was from the city and had never seen Indians, she would hide me when they came to ask for bread or eggs. After awhile she came to accept them and the women would come and scrub floors for her.

Mother always had a helping hand for all. She would nurse the sick and care for women when they had their babies. She worked in the old Innisfail Hospital for a number of years and nursing for Dr. Wagner and Dr. Turner on cases in the country such as pneumonia and typhoid.

Dad grew a large garden and mother canned vegetables and wild fruit and set hens to raise chickens, turkeys and geese. When Dad, with the help



Mrs. "Chappie" Powell and Mrs. W. E. Nolan at the spinning wheel.

of some neighbors would do their own butchering, mother would can or cure the meat.

Dad was a great lover of horses and it was said he drove the best horses on the roads. During the winter he hauled grain to Innisfail and Bowden for other farmers with his horses and sleigh. He entered his horses in all the Fairs and took a lot of prizes for them, which brought him some money. Mother and Dad never missed the Innisfail and Milnerton Fairs and mother entered bread, pies and cakes in them. Hodges store would always buy all the butter she would make and she would take it out in groceries.

I married J.O. Smith December 2, 1931 and we have five children. (see Smith story) Dad died in 1937 and Mom in 1946; both are buried in the Knee Hill Valley cemetery.

"DOC" PRUITT by Mrs. Henry Holmes

Grover Cleveland Pruitt was born in the Texas panhandle. He and Mrs. Pruitt came to Canada in 1920 from the Wenatchee Valley. They lived in the Gordon district in a log cabin on the Lamb farm. He first worked for Sam Hamilton. As a stockman he was without peer. There was open range then. When anyone lost cattle, they hired Doc to find them. It might take him a day or a week, but he never failed. Before he left on a trip he would make a batch of hoecake — no one else could make it to suit him. It was made from cornmeal, salt, and water and spread thinly in a large pan and baked very hard. He broke it into pieces and tucked it into his coat pockets. This was the only food he took with him. Cayenne pepper was his favorite condiment, and he ate lots of it.

In the early thirties, Mrs. Pruitt moved to Sylvan Lake where she opened a confectionery. Doc moved east of Innisfail and made his living as a travelling veterinarian — filing horses' teeth, dehorning cattle, castrating, vaccinating and treating minor ailments.

He never fully recovered from a merciless beating administered by a person or persons unknown. After some time, he died.

THE S. P. PYE STORY by Mrs. Hazel Inglis and Mrs. Elsie Eggen

Samuel Pomeroy Pye, our father, was born at Brooklyn, Bonavista Bay, Newfoundland on Oct. 25, 1875, the son of Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Pye, and it was

there he attended school. His father owned a fishing schooner in those days and his sons accompanied him on fishing trips off the coast of Labrador and in the Straits of Belle Isle, which constituted the source of the family income. He often told the story of some of those perilous trips and how one time a storm came up and he was washed overboard while trying to help with the sails.

His brother Elijah (Lige) and family and his sister, Mrs. George Allan Domoney and family had migrated to Canada earlier in the 1890's and had sent back glowing reports of the country and the cheap land to be had in the Horn Hill area where they had homesteaded. So in 1898, at the age of 23, he left his home land and came west on the same ship which Mr. & Mrs. George Quinton and their two sons travelled in. It was a long hard journey to Montreal and then by train to Calgary and north to Red Deer.

After visiting relatives, Samuel Pye went to Golden, B.C. where he worked in a lumber yard for the winter and later came back to Red Deer where he was employed in the Piper brick yard for a time prior to filing on a homestead in the Horn Hill district, half a mile from his brother.

In 1900 his fiancée, Miss Virginia Holloway, who was born Jan. 10, 1876 in Port Blandford, Newfoundland, and later moved to Boston, Mass., came to Alberta and they were married Aug. 9, 1900 at the home of Mr. Pye's sister and brother-in-law, Mr. & Mrs. Domoney — the first marriage to be solemnized in the Horn Hill district.

Mother and Dad's first home was a little log cabin on the Logan farm, later known as the Wm. Shields' farm. They lived there until Mr. Pye completed a four roomed log house on their own land and after moving there Mr. Pye began the laborious task of clearing the land and bringing it under cultivation.

Mr. & Mrs. Pye took an active part in the development of the Horn Hill district, the school, church and Sunday school. They were staunch Methodists — later known as the United Church. Mr. Pye was on the church board and a trustee of the school board for many years. He was an active member of the United Farmers of Alberta, the United Grain Growers, the Wheat Pool, and the Co-op Association. Both he and Mrs. Pye were members of the Central Alberta Old Timers' Association.

During the first World War Mr. Pye helped to raise money for the Red Cross and Mrs. Pye spent hours knitting and sewing and sending parcels to the Horn Hill boys overseas.

Down through the years Mr. & Mrs. Pye acquired three more quarters of land adjoining the homestead and a half section now owned by their son, Hollis. In 1918 they built an eight-roomed home.

Their early neighbors in those days were: Elijah Pye, Ronald Pye, Geo. Quinton, Greening, Domoney, Oldford (all from Newfoundland) — and Parkers, Wm. Watkins, and Wm. Speachly.

The Horn Hill school was built on the Geo. Parker farm and the early teachers were Dan Code, Miss Et-

ter, Miss Soley (Mrs. Alfred Speakman), Mr. Adnell, Miss Cleland, Miss Reynolds and Mrs. Buckle.

The family during their farming years bought much of their needs at the G.W. West's store in Innisfail. They travelled with team and wagon mostly and in the winter with sleigh or cutter.

The Horn Hill picnic was the highlight of every summer. It was held on the Domoney farm and people came with their families to enjoy the races for young and old, the baseball and football games and the pot luck supper served by the ladies in the shade of the poplar trees.

Mr. Pye died Aug. 19, 1939 in Red Deer hospital at the age of 64 and Mrs. Pye on Jan. 10, 1955 in Didsbury at the age of 79. Both are buried in the Horn Hill cemetery. Their family consisted of three sons and four daughters;

Albert Chesley Pye, born Aug. 9, 1901 died in 1904 and is buried in the Horn Hill cemetery.

Elsie Elizabeth, born Dec. 21, 1902. Married Paul Eggen Nov. 25, 1922. They farmed for a number of years in the Horn Hill district, later moved to Red Deer and now reside at Penticton, B.C. Their family: Harold (deceased), Walter, Melvin, Dorothy and Irene.



Mr. and Mrs. S. P. Pye

Hazel Blanche born Dec. 13, 1905, married Walter Inglis on March 3, 1931. Farmed in Antler Hill district for many years, then moved to Didsbury and in 1957 to Innisfail where Walter died in 1963. Hazel still resides in Innisfail. They had two sons and one daughter: Donald, Dennis and Barbara.

Florence Mabel, born Dec. 10, 1907; married Sydney Wright Feb. 28, 1933. They farmed in the Clearview district for some years, later moved to Red Deer where they now reside. They had one son, Douglas.

Hollis John, born March 3, 1909, farms in Horn Hill district. Married Winnifred Rollis Dec. 4, 1935. They had one daughter Lois. Winnifred died in 1944. Hollis later married Marjorie Orr and they had three daughters and one son: Evelyn (deceased), Joyce, Jean, and Bob.

Gladys Mildred, born Nov. 4, 1910, married Chester Hilditch Jan. 7, 1930. They farmed in the

Penhold district and later moved to Vancouver, B.C. They had one daughter and two sons: Margaret, Arthur, Bob.

George Pomeroy, born April 27, 1912, married Dorothy Wells on July 16, 1942. After farming in the Horn Hill district they moved to Red Deer where they now reside. They had one daughter and three sons: Doreen, Chesley, Fred and Russell.

EDWIN ALBERT QUANTZ ("UNCLE ED") by Mrs. John Paxton

My father, E.A. Quantz, first came to the district in 1898. He was born in Quantz Town, Markham Township, York County, Ontario on March 10, 1866 and came West to visit his brother, J.D. Quantz, and recuperate from an illness brought on by overwork while teaching Business College in Newburyport, Mass., U.S.A.

He arrived by train from Calgary at which time there was a tri-weekly service. He was a bachelor so had no family worries. He soon recuperated from his illness and decided to stay out west. Being a school teacher, he had no difficulty in finding employment as he had several letters from the east asking him to return to previous positions there.

However, the west had claimed him and he took the job as teacher at Fairland near Penhold in 1899. He made no mention of the salary paid or how many pupils he had. He lived with his brother J.D. and his wife at their farm N.E. of Innisfail and rode back and forth to school on horseback. In 1901 he took a school at Creekford out from Ft. Saskatchewan in the Edmonton district and in 1904 moved west of Wetaskiwin. There he married Ruth Harris who had been one of his pupils in Creekford school.

Born to the marriage were William E. who married Florence Green of the Aberdeen district and now lives in Calgary. Albert G., who still lives in Innisfail. Minnie R. who married John Paxton of the Antler Hill District. Irene J. who died in 1916. Ernest D. who died in 1939.



The Quantz Family: E. A. Quantz, J. D. Quantz, Mrs. E. A. Quantz, Mrs. J. D. Quantz; and Percy and Doan.

My mother, Ruth, died in 1915 and the family was scattered for some years. We finally got together in Ontario in 1920. From there we moved to Langley, B.C. for a few years before returning to Innisfail in July 1925. Dad taught school at Oklahoma, west of Innisfail for three years, then moved to the Aberdeen district where he taught for five years. He taught in numerous schools in Alberta and B.C. making his summer home with us on our present farm. Dad retired from teaching in 1954 covering a life-time of teaching for 68 years. He died in a road accident in 1959 at the age of 93 and is interred in the Innisfail cemetery.

During all his life he was a faithful worker in the Church, but due to the fact that his teaching career was so widespread, he never belonged to any fraternal organizations.

JACOB DANIEL ("JAKE") QUANTZ by Gerald Doan Quantz

My grandfather, Jacob Daniel Quantz, was born September 13, 1863 on the Quantz farm in Markham County, Ontario; the fifth child born to George and Jane Quantz, descendants of Melcher Quantz who came to Canada in 1794 from Hamberg, Germany. Grandfather worked on various farms around Markham County, Ontario until he decided to become a veterinarian. He attended the Ontario Veterinary College from which he passed March 29, 1889. He practiced in Ontario until he went to Maysville, Kentucky in February 1891. He was married to Sophia Jane Doan in Cincinnati, Ohio on October 14, 1891. She was born in New Market, York County, Ontario on Dec. 27, 1864, a descendant of Ebenezer Doan who came to Canada in 1808. She had been working in a tailor shop in Toronto.

In Kentucky, Grandfather's business was mainly with horses. Horses weren't selling and it became impossible for him to collect his bills and meet his debts, so they decided to leave. Grandmother's brother, J.E. Doan had homesteaded near Innisfail, so they wrote and asked him to file a homestead (SE 24-36-28-4) for them. Jake, his wife, and infant son, Jacob Doan, left Kentucky Aug. 1, 1895, visited in Ontario and left for the west Sept. 17, 1895. (Quotes are from grandfather's autobiography)

"After starting, we found out that the train from Calgary to Edmonton only made two trips per week and we would have to wait two days for it, so we decided to stop in Winnipeg, went to the Immigration Hall with a lot of English who were going to try their fortunes in the west. Calgary was only a frontier village and had three or four inches of snow on the morning of Sept. 23 when we got there. Going north there was more snow and a few patches of grain in stook were almost drifted out of sight. An Englishman with eight of a family who had risked all he had by coming walked up and down the car stopping frequently to ask 'What do you think of that! It certainly did not look as rosy as the pictures in the government pamphlets. It was a new experience for me and I had nothing reassuring to say. We were there and had to see it through.'

"I sent my diploma and a \$5.00 fee to Regina and got the license to be a veterinarian; practised more or less for some years going beyond Red Deer, Innisfail and Pine Lake. About the only mode of travel was on horse back and that was hard work when one was not used to it every day. I would be busy at home for weeks, and only riding after cows, then some one would come along possibly after supper when I was tired or on Sunday, and I would go with them 25 or 30 miles and ride back the next morning."

When the Quantz's arrived, they lived in George Turner's shack. Later in the fall Grandfather helped Joe Doan put up his log shack and barn with logs brought from the Red Deer River the previous winter. Then my grandparents lived there for two years. The food the first winter was potatoes planted by Joe Doan. They were small because they had been frozen down. They bought a quarter of beef from a neighbor but mainly depended on rabbits. "Twenty-five years later it was said some of the oldtimer's noses were still twitching, the result of eating rabbits."

"We spent most of that first winter cutting rails and logs in the valley along the river and hauling them home. I got enough for a shack 18' x 22' and for a stable 24' x 30'. We would feed and water the few head of stock and get breakfast long before daylight, then start with the bronks and sleigh. It was fierce going over the prairie cold mornings, and we had a great many of them that winter. When we got down in the woods out of the wind we could work in our shirt sleeves. Rolled our dinner and hot tea up in coats and blankets so it kept warm till noon. Never made a fire, but put on our overcoats and walked around as we ate our lunch. Some days the bread would commence turning white in a few minutes after it was unwrapped and before we finished eating it was frozen so hard we could scarcely bite it. Under the conditions we did not want an hour for lunch but jumped into work again while chewing the last bite. Coming home at night was the worst part of the day. We would be tired, our clothes more or less damp, and the wind often stinging cold. We had no water at home and took a barrel with us in the morning leaving it at a neighbor's spring and bringing it back at night full of water. Gave the cows a drink and put the barrel in by the kitchen stove until morning. It often had one to two inches of ice all over the outside. It would not thaw sitting close to our stove and did not help to keep the place warm or comfortable."

Jake and Sophia had two sons. Their first son was born in Maysville, Kentucky on February 12, 1894. He was named Jacob Doan and known as Doan. He was killed in action in Belgium, June 3, 1916.

Their second son, Oscar Percival (Perc) was born on the farm in Innisfail August 16, 1901. Here he lived until he retired to Red Deer in 1971. He married Ada Elizabeth Stevenett on June 25, 1924. Mother was born in Tabor, Iowa on June 13, 1898. She came to this area with her family, the Allison Stevenetts in March 1905.

Four children were born to Perc. and Ada Quantz:

Rachel Elizabeth (Betty) was born June 14, 1925 and passed away after an illness on August 28, 1958.

Margaret Ruth was born October 14, 1926. She married a doctor of Geology, W.G. Johnson, December 30, 1954. They have three children and live in Regina.

John Oscar was born June 8, 1929. He married Deloris Ion in July 1952. They have three children. John lives in Penhold. Deloris passed away April 3, 1970.

Gerald Doan was born January 26, 1933. He married Betty Hamar August 15, 1960. They have four children and live on the farm at RR4, Innisfail.

"Wet weather commenced in 1899. Poplar and willow trees that had been growing in low spots for 40 to 50 years were killed, proving there had been a long dry period."

"A creamery had been started in Innisfail but was not giving satisfaction so to help the settlers, and keep them from leaving the country, the Dominion Government took it over and built a new one. It was managed by a local board of directors, and the patrons were charged one cent per pound of butter to repay the money the government had advanced. I was elected a director and was president for two years."

"In 1902 Antler Hill school district was formed, and the school house became a local centre for church service and entertainments. The Methodist and Presbyterians held service alternately. Both denominations attended services regardless of who preached, and we helped to support both ministers. We were a pleasant friendly little congregation and some of the finest memories of my life are of religious and social gatherings at Antler Hill School."

"In 1918 I was elected a member of the Municipal council and looking after the roads took some time. I became quite interested and served for eight years, the last two as Reeve."

Jake Quantz also worked as an adjuster for the Hail Insurance Board for three years. Land prices: "1897 bought home quarter from Turner for \$50. He cancelled first homestead and took out another SE 10-36-28 which was sold to J.D. Trace in 1905 for \$1500. In 1902 bought SW 13-36-28 for \$7 per acre with interest at 6% per annum and was sold to Parsonage & Holmes for \$4000. In 1907 NE 14-36-28 was bought from Lee Gardiner for \$2200. In 1911 Charles Newton and Jake Quantz bought NW 13-26-28 from Fred Gardiner for \$2000."

Sophia Jane Quantz passed away June 2, 1943. Jacob Daniel Quantz passed away July 2, 1943. Both were buried in the Innisfail Cemetery.

JOHN BREWER QUARTLY by Frank Quartly

My father came from Chalford Manor Place near Oxford, England and was born in Somerset on April 6, 1893. He was undecided whether to come out to Canada or go to Australia for adventure, but in early 1908 he accompanied a family by the name of Wayes who were settling in the Hill End district near Innisfail.

During the winter of 1908 he looked after Mr. Wayes' cattle and horses while Mr. Wayes was away



Mr. and Mrs. John Quartly

preaching. A few fellows used to come to visit with him in the evenings and play cards. One night they decided they should quit smoking, so they threw their pipes and tobacco in the old air-tight heater. "Goodby to pipes and tobacco" — but the next day he wished he hadn't been so hasty.

Father worked on farms for the first few years he was here and then later took up farming on his own. In the early 1940's he was a councillor for the M.D. of Arthur for several years. He was trustee for the Clarendon School for a number of years. Most of his life was spent farming and he enjoyed a good horse trade with some of his neighbors.

He married Florence Sarah Songhurst in May of 1916, who was born in Arlsey near London, England in 1892. They had seven children:

Francis (Innisfail) who married Edith McMillan; they had 3 children: Donald Janette, and Clifford (dec. Sept. 21, 1970).

Sydney (Innisfail) married Myrtle G. Fisher; they have 3 children: Darrold, Jill and Heather.

Cyril (Innisfail) married Myrtle Pickard; they have 8 children: Ronald, Sheila, Jack, Rick, Patricia, Douglas, Herbert and Allan.

Hazel (Innisfail) married Jake Job; they have 4 children: Norman, Karen, Ivan & Marvin.

George — was killed in action in Italy, May 23, 1944.

Stewart (Innisfail) married Phyllis Pendergast; they have 5 children: Gail, Loren, Teresa, Rodney and Brett. Stewart died Jan. 5, 1968, buried in Red Deer.

Bill (Red Deer) married Delores Chilton; they have 2 children: Gordon and Dena.

Some early families I remember: La Marshes, McGillivray, Marshalls, Langevin, Bakers, Sniders, Bradleys, Shanks, Biggs, Fords, Oaks, Parcels, Pomeroy's, Fishers, Goldstroms, Moffats, Wilsons, McMillans, Wells, Swankies, Davis, Chutes, Lewis, Camerons, Hammonds, Clockies.

We received our schooling at Clarendon School. We enjoyed evenings playing ball; houseparties, and we used to play cricket. One of the big events of the year was the First of July Stampede and the big dance in the evening.

Francis (Frank) was a trustee for the Clarendon School; is a member of the Local Community Hall Board and member of E.M.O.

John Brewer Quartly has resided in the Red Deer Nursing Home since 1971. His wife Florence died on Feb. 22, 1956 and is buried in the Innisfail Cemetery.

PARADES



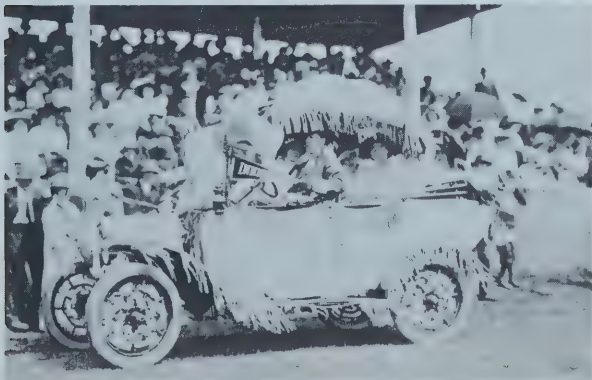
Orangemen preparing for 1909 parade: Geordie Powers, Tom Marks, Geordie and Tom Kirkham, J. Bear, G. S. Kirkham, Tommy White, Dave Arnell, Bert Varty and M. O. Frazer.



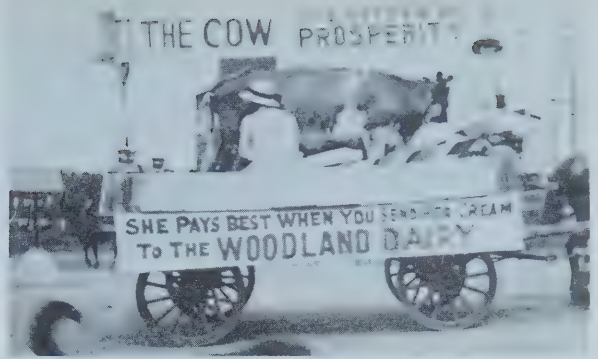
July 1st Parade. Lead float "Provinces"; one driver H. Duncan; Buggy "Dad" Smith.



Parade on Railroad Street, early 1900's; G. W. West riding "Old Captain" with sign "Two Old Timers."



Prize car in front of grandstand about 1914.



"Coliseum" Float July 1, 1908; Willie Hodge driving Daisy and Bill.



Fumerton's Float 1913



Float for Alberta Lumber Co. with Tom Hudson driving, Mr. Stiles, Mgr. in front; taken in early 1920's.



Innisfail Parade Day about 1915



Old time Fire Brigade about 1910; Geo. Ingham, ?, Ed MacLeod, Murray Fox, Jack Law, Charlie Alden, Billy Wilson.



At Innisfail C.P.R. Station. The Band is playing for the train arrival on their Sports' Day.



Part of Innisfail Band about 1922. Back row, L. to R.: T. J. Kirkham, W. Pendergast, Mr. Davis, Alex Munro, Mr. Shurman, Fleet Kirkham, Art McKay, Mr. Wilson; middle row: Mr. Lehr, Dr. Gribble, Lyndford Kemp, Ernie Dodd, Wm. Malcolm, Jack Dodd, Mr. Coddington.



Pipe Band taken about 1912: Frank Laing, A. Archibald, Fred Scully, G. S. Kirkham, ?, E. McAllister, and Jack Morison.



Orangemen Parading down Main Street 1908; Billy Wilson on White horse.



DIX MELGROVE RANDALL by Alys Craig

Dix Melgrove Randall was born Dec. 5, 1872 in Ensley Township, Newago County, Michigan, U.S.A. He came from Newago County to Innisfail in March 1906. On April 30, 1895 he married Mary Ann Spencer at Sand Lake, Michigan. She was born at Port Arthur, Ontario, daughter of a policeman, who later moved to Michigan. Nina Randall came to Innisfail with her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. John Spencer, one year before the rest of the family arrived. Granddad Spencer died while farming in the Loyalty district and is buried at Arthurville cemetery; Grandma went back to Michigan. Dix Randall's wife and four children followed him to Innisfail on Jan. 19, 1907. At age 14, Dix started to work in the lumber woods in winter and did carpenter work in the summer. His first job in Innisfail was clearing out

streets for the town working with Frank Malcolm Sr. He helped to build many of the town buildings, eg. Geary Drug store (now Jackson's).

In 1907 he took out a homestead situated 18 miles east and 6 miles south in the Hogadone district. When the Hogadone school opened in May, 1908, he moved the family out to the homestead with a team of oxen. Father farmed but continued to follow the carpentry trade until he retired in July 1950.

He built barns for: Albert Hibbert, John Burch, Walter Scott . . . houses for: Norman and Ed Holt, Paul Hargreaves, W. Calvert of KHV and Dr. Dorsey of Innisfail (now owned by Russel Berscht); and the unique teepee at Sundre owned by Col. Snyder (later destroyed by fire) . . . home and store for E.W. Meers at Wimborne and Crown Lumber Co. building at Wimborne. He built or built on to the following schools — Loyalty in 1925; Frontier; Arthurville; Milner; Collingwood; new Hogadone; and a large amount of work at St. Mary's Convent and Hospital at Trochu.

My father had quite a sense of humour. He could tell us of the hardships they had endured when first coming to the homestead — shortage of coal, the hard work it took to supply enough good stove wood, the occasion when they ran out of coal oil for the lamps and used candles, and the shortages of groceries when weather and roads were bad at the same time. Also, we can remember when it was so dry even the potatoes didn't grow — we ate macaroni and beans and then we ate beans and macaroni. It sounded humorous when he told it but not when it was happening.

Amongst our first neighbours were: John Wilson Sr., Lawsons, Neilsons, Jardines, Blenkhorns, Jim McKenzie, Jesse & Heber Hargreaves, Tom Abram, J. Moran, Mr. & Mrs. Ros Hoppins, Walter & Jack Scott, Whitakers, Bampfields, Louis Demer, Loiselles, Gallaghers, Vickeries, Frank Pierce, Charlie Currie, Steadmans, Rbt. Berry and Jimmy Marshall, our only negro neighbor. Jimmy loved young people and to us he was just the most wonderful man alive. He greatly loved music and to dance, but never would ask anybody for a dance until the night of Sheila (Bampfield) and Jim Jeffries wedding dance — the bride's mother went and asked Mr. Marshall for a dance and he was away! I don't believe he missed many dances after that. Jimmy died in January 1950 and willed his farm to the Wood's Christian Home. He was loved and respected by all who knew him.

Most of our entertainment was of the 'home-grown' type. Card parties and dances were often held at the neighbors' or in the school house. Whenever the parents went, the children did too; baby sitters were unknown. Children learned to dance at an early age. Our father and later brother Lyle called square dances and many a happy evening was had in our house dancing squares so our callers could practice. The Demers, Howard, and later the Peebles' orchestras usually played for the dances. We used to swim in the creek running through Jim McKenzie's farm and

another favorite spot for swimming and skating was Crystal Pool.

We had quite a large number of young people who used to meet on Demers flat to play ball a couple nights a week. We called ourselves the "Softball Club". In winter, the club put on plays at the school. In one, our beloved Mr. Marshall was the butler and what a marvelous job he did. The next winter the play was changed enough that he could again have a role in it.

The W.I. were a very active group. Card parties, picnics, and sometimes in winter an oyster supper for members and families; the turkey or chicken suppers in the fall were just grand and everyone came for miles around.

My father worked hard for every dollar he earned. When he first came to the district he made 25c an hour and worked 10 hours a day on many jobs.

The older children of our family started school in Innisfail. Then in 1908 when we moved to the homestead, attended school at Hogadone. Some of the older children did the janitor work at the school. I remember well my last teacher at Hogadone, Miss Margaret Coles.



5 Generations. Great Grandmother Nina Thurston, Grandmother Eileen Fox, Father Laurene Fox, Great Great Grandfather Dix Randall holding Leanne Fox.

Many times Jim McKenzie brought our groceries when father was away from home. Charlie Currie, a bachelor, had his mail delivered to our box and each Christmas would give us a box of oranges and sometimes he would bring us children a bag of candy. The Morans were such good neighbors. Mrs. Moran and my mother had been in maternity ward together — Victor and I were born the same day. I believe the Moran Brothers now own Father's old homestead.

My Mother's bravery and patience has always been a marvel to me. She was brought up in a home where

her only duties were to dust the parlor and practice her music lessons. She had so much to learn to cook and keep house for her large family, to do farm chores, and learn to drive a team as well. I can remember Mother telling us of her first bread making — she let it rise too much and had bread all over the place. Another disaster was rice — she laughingly would tell of having rice in every pan in the house and eating rice until it came out their ears. Mother was a charter member of the Milnerton W.I. and later an active member of the Baptist Ladies' group.

Dix Randall died April 3, 1963 predeceased by his wife Mary Ann on May 13, 1951. They had twelve children:

Lyle Melgrove Randall — born Sept. 18, 1896 at Newago County, Michigan. Married May Grove Feb. 6, 1918; married Helen De Bois. Two children: Helen, Richard. Deceased 1968, buried in Vancouver.

Twins, Leon & Leo born June 18, 1901, Michigan. Leon Spencer Randall married Ethel Elliott Aug. 3, 1946; 2 children — Marilyn & Brian. Lives in Innisfail. Leo never married; died Jan. 19, 1967, buried in Innisfail.

Nina Josephine — born April 30, 1903, Michigan. Married Wm. Thurston, June 1, 1921. Lives in Edmonton; children — Purvis, Pearl, Eileen, Donald, Marjorie, Olive.

Helen Luella, born May 8, 1905, Michigan. Died June 9, 1914; buried at Arthurvale.

Georgina Viola, born Feb. 9, 1908; married Dwight West Feb. 9, 1928; 2 children — Merle, Anne. Died Nov. 19, 1942; buried in Innisfail.

Wilbur Ernest, born July 2, 1910; married Neva Spencer Jan. 26, 1937. Died July 28, 1969 in Vancouver; children — Dorothy, Dianne, Carol, Jerris, Robert, Vicki, Linda.

Winnifred Anne — born Sept. 29, 1911; died Feb. 1921; buried at Arthurvale.

Twins, Milton Albro and John William born March 19, 1915. Milton married overseas, Tena. Children — Donald, Fay Daphne, Dix, Vera, plus triplets (deceased). Lives at Whitecourt.

Jack married Mary Adamchuk Apr. 18, 1940; 2 children Dix & Karen; lives at Trail.

Alys Ferne, born July 11, 1918 married Fraser Osguthorpe Dec. 2, 1939. Children — Dixie, Darlene, Dawn, Dalys, Frank & Lorelei (twins); David, Jolene. Married Frank Craig; Lives at Innisfail.

Mary Irene born Feb. 19, 1921; married George Elashchuk July 14, 1938; children — Raymond (deceased), Louis Sharon, Gail. Married Gordon Jacobsen. Lives in Red Deer.

My brothers Leon, Lyle, Leo and Wilbur worked as carpenters with their father. Jack went to Trail as a young man and has worked in the smelter there for many years. Milton works at Whitecourt; he was farming until suffering from rheumatic fever but he still has ponies. Lyle was a Commissionaire for several years before retirement; Wilbur moved to New Westminster where he did carpentry and cement work.

In the Randall family there are three generations of twins: two sets of brothers Leo & Leon, Milton & Jack. My own twins Lorelei & Frank. Milton and Tena's triplets (girls) one died at 26 hours, one at 3 months and Sandra was over a year. Milton and Tena's daughter Daphnee has twins — a boy and a girl.

TOM RAWLINSON STORY by Dorothy Leslie

My parents, Mr. & Mrs. Tom Rawlinson, and my brother Tom and myself (Dorothy) came first to Olds, Alberta from England in 1906. At about 1909 father took up a homestead near Wimborne and we lived there until 1912 when we moved to Innisfail.

At this time my father was importing pure-bred Shire horses from England. Many were sold in this area. Eventually in 1936 some were sold to California buyers and after his death in 1937, the remaining horses were purchased by a California buyer and were shown at the World's Fair held at Treasure Island, San Francisco in 1939. Here they won all the top awards in wide competition.

My father judged at fairs all over Alberta and showed his horses at all Provincial fairs here in Alberta and in British Columbia, too. He held the position of President of the Shire Horse Society of Canada at one time. He had always been a keen student of the Shire horse breed and he developed a type especially suited to Western taste and requirements.

He died in 1937 and Mother died in 1969. Both are buried in the Innisfail cemetery.

In recollections of homesteading days I know father built the shack of our future home. We came by wagon from Olds, followed by the cow which was attached to the back of the wagon. We arrived at our new home which was just a one-roomed shack. The following day it rained. I recall we children were kept in bed with umbrellas up to protect us from the drips.

My father dug a well and struck water at about 12 feet down. These were wet years so there was no shortage of water in the country. While he dug, mother hauled up the dirt in a pail. Fortunately, her slender



Tom Rawlinson and one of his prize horses.

arms never failed though he had some anxious moments.

When the Government offered him a job as a judge at Provincial fairs we welcomed the prospect of real cash. Up until this time the cream cheque had been our only source and a pretty slim one at that. So, while he went off, mother and we children carried on with the farm chores. Mother baked bread for neighboring bachelors and was presented with a sow in payment. The family of little black rascals she produced added further to the family income.

Father had imported a Shire stallion in 1909 which he travelled briefly around the Olds area. We left the farm in 1912 and he went to England and imported more horses and from then on carried on this business from Innisfail.

We had schooling at the Frontier school near Wimborne. It was rather a sketchy school that was held often only in the summer with a new teacher fresh out of four month's normal school every year. So our parents were glad to be in Innisfail where we had better opportunities for learning.

We lived in our first home in town up behind the present water tower. There were a few homes in that area. Some still stand. Central or 50th Avenue as we know it today was then just a trail through the bush until you reached the old McMillan house (now Rauhofer Foto).

Every year Father put on a parade in Innisfail with his horses. It was a much looked-to event. Every horse he had the Innisfail prefix to their name and Jack Varty was a helper with the horses for some time.

Some of the classmates that I had when attending school in Innisfail were: Frank West, Lynnford Kemp, Elmer Marks, Ellen McFadyen, Anna Smith, Emma Ferguson, Dorothy Cook, and Tina Scott. The teachers who remain outstanding in my memory are Miss Cameron and Mr. Main. I later attended normal school in Edmonton and then taught at Grahamston, Sylvan Lake, Chinook, and then Innisfail in 1925. I remained teaching here for three years. Frank Leslie and I were married Dec. 26, 1928 in Calgary. He was associated with Innisfail Motors for some years until the time of the accident in which he was killed in 1934.

My brother Tommy was not interested in horses and apprenticed with Mr. Lennox in the plumbing business and still has such high regard for Mr. Lennox. Later Tommy was employed by Nelson Radiator Co. in Calgary and now is manager there. He married Susan Brown and they have been in Calgary ever since.

WILLIAM H. REEVES by Sven and Mary Reeves

My parents, William H. Reeves and Emma (Inga Marie Thompson) were married in the United States and moved to homestead in the Hill End district of Innisfail in 1899 from Garretson, South Dakota, accompanying my maternal grandparents, Sven & Mary Thompson. (see story).

I, Sven, was born in June 1902 while my parents William and Inga Reeves were still on the homestead,

the other five older children were born in the States. They were Mary — (Mrs. William Howard); William Jr. — who married Evelyn Forrester; Emma — who married Jud Rowden; Richard — who later was taken by his father back to South Dakota, married Esther Jones; Mona — who married Edward Richards; Dora — who was born in Alberta also; married William Flinn.

After Grandpa passed away in 1905 and my Father returned to the States, Grandma and my Uncles left the homestead and moved about two or three times until they finally settled in Elnora about 1911, taking some of us children with them while Mother went out to work. I remember when the Railway was being put through Elnora.

Schools were few and far apart and I had little opportunity to attend. My first teacher was Gordon Healy at the Hill End school but I didn't go for long as my Uncles moved from there and I didn't go again until after we were in Elnora but only a short time again. After my sister Mary was married I went to live with them until I was old enough to go out to work.

The first neighbors I remember were the Hempkins, Frank Langs, Ted Baker, Chris Moffats, Archibalds, Donald McMillan. I remember the little country store and post office that was operated by Teddy Songhurst in the Hill End district. The main road to Innisfail was built of poles and covered with dirt that became deep ruts of mud in wet weather and in the Spring, wagon wheels cutting right through to this corduroy made travel very slow by team and wagon. The trip to Innisfail from my brother-in-law's was a two day trip, so wasn't made too often.

A Mr. Sam Hornett used to haul the cream in the early days in the country in barrels. He lived about 16 miles east of Innisfail. He also used to go throughout the neighborhood doing custom work such as grinding grain and sawing wood. My uncles used to tell how strong he was. He could start the stationary engine he used for grinding or sawing with only using one finger to turn the fly-wheel, when the average man would need both hands.

My family told of how the farmers would take their cattle, hogs or grain into Innisfail and exchange it for groceries and dry-goods at the G.W. West General store. Some of the farmers would take their own wheat to the mill and have it ground for flour or coarse for cereal. Nearly all the farm women baked their own bread and canned their own home grown vegetables. Fruit and meat also had to be preserved by canning before the day of the deep freezer. A cold water tank was the means of keeping things cold. Wild fruit was a great help in the early days and many a quart was preserved if one could get the sugar; sometimes it was done without sugar.

The neighbors used to gather together at different homes for a house party until the school houses were built in the districts; when they would gather there for a Friday night dance, the school desks being all pushed against the wall making a place for the little ones to be put to sleep while Mother and Dad en-

joyed an evening of dancing Mr. James Layden Sr. used to be emcee for the Christmas Concert.

In December 1926, I married Mary Elizabeth Sparks, daughter of Truman and Alice Sparks, who got most of her schooling in the Calder district. We farmed east of Innisfail until 1945 when we moved to Cascade, B.C., but after less than two years we returned to Alberta farming east of Olds for two years and then moved into the town of Olds. I did School janitor work and carpenter work there until the fall of 1955 when my employer moved me to Calgary where later I became maintenance man with the Dept. of Public Works until my retirement in 1968. In July 1970 we moved to Mission City, B.C. where we now make our home. Our two daughters and one son were all born at Innisfail.

Lola was born Dec. 1927 and married John Haffner; they had two sons, Dwayne and Gerald. John died in 1954; in 1964 Lola married Hugh McBreen; they live in Mission, B.C.

Our son Verne was born in August 1929. He married Nell Holmes in Aug. 1952; they have three daughters — Carolyn, Laura, Eileen, and one son David. They live in Salisbury, Rhodesia, where they are missionaries under the Africa Evangelical Fellowship.

Mabel was born in September 1931, and married Albert Heinzig in Sept. 1950. They have one son and three daughters. Their daughter Yvonne is married and lives in Calgary. Valerie, Darryl and Loretta are all in Rhodesia, Africa as missionaries under the Apostolic Church of the Pentecost, stationed at Bulawayo, Rhodesia.

My father, William H. Reeves, passed away at Pipestone, Minn. about 1944 while Mother passed away at Innisfail in March 1954 and is buried in the Innisfail Cemetery.

MELVIN & EMMA RICKARD by Myrtle Quartly

Melvin and Emma Rickard came here from Oregon with sons Melvin and Ashby and settled on the NW 6-36-26-4 about the year 1914. They operated a blacksmith shop and made harness as well as farming. Emma milked goats to supply the household with milk.

Son Melvin married Mary Biggs and they lived in the Hill End district for a few years. While there, Mary was struck with lightning one evening while getting in the cows for milking. Her clothes were burned off and when they found her rubber boots, there was just an inch sticking out of the ground. Mary lost her hearing in that near tragedy. Mel and Mary moved to the Kevisville district. They had four daughters and three sons. Ralph (Buck) — lives on the home place. Mabel — married Louis Shannon; they live in the Kevisville district and raised five children. June — married Ronald Olmstead; they live in Claresholm and had five children. Vesta — married Julius Blum of Bellingham, Wash. They raised three children. Samuel — never married and is now deceased. Mary — is married to Jess Kenoyer of Bellingham, Wash. and they raised three sons, Melvin

— is married and lives in California. They have five children.

Son Ashby Rickard married Clara Biggs (a sister of Mary) in April 1918. They lived in the Kevisville district also for a number of years. They had one daughter and one son. Myrtle married Cyril Quartly and they live east of Innisfail in the Clarendon district. They had six sons and two daughters. Carl Rickard never married and lived in the Kevisville district most of his life. He died in 1968 and is buried in the Innisfail Cemetery.

The Quartly children are the only grandchildren of Clara Rickard, and are: Ron who married Evelyn Domoney and live in Penhold district with their two children: Sheila (Mrs. John Bourne). They have four children and live in Penhold: John (Jack) who married Dianne Pimm. They have two sons and live in Red Deer: Rick, who married Trudy Boone. They have two sons and live in the Clarendon District: Pat (Mrs. Robert Wilson) who lives near Gull Lake, Alta: Douglas who married Bernice Bourne and resides in Red Deer: Herbert who married Beverly Kinsella and reside in Red Deer: Allan who lives at home.

MARTIN RISTE by Verne Riste

Martin Riste was born in Illinois, U.S.A. in April 1882 and married Lillian Claybough, who lived in the same district, in 1903. Mother was born in March 1881. Dad was raised on a farm, and he and mother farmed in the Bow Island district. I was born in April 1905 and my brother Ross in February 1914. We had too many crop failures in the Bow Island district — the drought, wind storms, and soil drifting was too much to fight, so we left in 1919 going to Formost, to Gleichen, to Olds, and in 1922 arrived in Innisfail. We travelled by team and wagon. The Cottonwood district was quite well settled when we arrived and with a variety of neighbors. One elderly lady tried to tell us who to associate with and who not to associate with; however, we made our own friends.

Dad liked horses, and he and I worked as a father-son partnership milking Guernsey cows. Soon after arrival in Cottonwood, we didn't have money enough to buy a bag of flour, so we pulled the hair from the horses' tails to trade. Luckily the cows started milking better after that and we had cream to sell. We did well with our milking enterprise and after Dad got to retirement age, I went into the pigs quite strong. Now I have retired from farming also, but still live in the Cottonwood district in a rented house. I still like Innisfail in preference to any other town.

Dad and mother got a little schooling in Illinois; I got mine at Bow Island and some at Gleichen. Ross started school at Gleichen and finished at Cottonwood. One winter the temperature stayed at 40 below or colder for about six weeks. Ross had to go 4-1/2 miles to school in that weather. There was a neighbor about half way to school where Ross could stop to get warm whether they were up or still in bed. When they were still in bed, he would stir up the fire and make the house warm for them to get up by. Just about everyone burned wood — most people had these 'Air

Tight Stoves' — and the wood sawing bees were a common thing every winter.

With clearing land by hand with the ax and grub hoe, we didn't have much time for recreation; however we did enjoy a few social get-togethers in the winter. Our neighbors were all farmers, families of just about every nationality, and in the days when most people travelled with horse and buggy, team and wagon, team and sleds, people seemed to be more friendly. There were no radios but just about every family had a gramophone, so when some neighbor purchased a new record everyone was sure to come over and admire it. We had a lot of 'home made' music in those days — violins, or fiddles, guitars, banjos, mandolins — there were some were able to play several instruments.

Once Ross and I were at a friend's place and Ross picked up a fiddle, played a few times; then our host took the fiddle and he could imitate just about any animal around the farm — any bird, domestic or wild; the coyote — Ross said, "I don't think I will ever try to play the fiddle again." This same man who could perform so well on the violin told this story about the Chinook: he said that he started out for Innisfail from the west country this one day, when it blew up a chinook. He kept his horses on the run to keep them on the snow; the sled was in the slush; and the poor hound-dog coming along behind had to swim.

One day another man came to our place and seeing my violin asked who played. Then he wanted to know "Did I play the violin or the fiddle?" I was puzzled to know how to answer that, so he said, "If you play by 'note', you play the violin; if you play by 'ear', you play the fiddle." So by that definition I play the fiddle.

One time, my brother and I each had a fiddle. We broke one E string, so I got a string out of a cello, which made my fiddle into a viola — it took two people with fiddles to get enough volume to be heard above this 'viola-fiddle' that I had.

We enjoyed the dramatic groups along with the Blain family, Robinson family, Cunninghams, Scotts, Fultons, Hunts, Sanborns, Lockharts, and Millars, to name a few.

I never did get married. Ross and his wife Dorothy live at Haney, B.C. Ross did a lot of truck driving and also had a second-hand furniture store in B.C.

Mother passed away in the Red Deer Nursing Home in March 1966 and Dad passed away in Kelowna, B.C. in 1970. Both are interred in Innisfail Cemetery.

THE JOHN ROBINSON FAMILY by C.C. 'Kit' Robinson

My grandfather, John Robinson and his wife, Barbara Ann (nee Kirkbride) and ten of their children came to Poplar Grove from England in the fall of 1895. His two oldest sons, Ted (aged 20) and Kit (aged 17) had left England and landed in Whitewood, Saskatchewan in the spring of 1894. They purchased a buckboard and horse and drove by wagon trail across Saskatchewan and Alberta landing in Innisfail

that fall. They liked the district and the people and sent word back to England for their parents and the rest of the family to come out as soon as possible. Many of the older children worked out for other settlers in the district and experienced many of the hardships of early pioneer life. Noble, my father, was fifteen at the time, and went to work at once on the old Gillingham ranch later owned by George Rosamond, the Percheron horse breeder, and later still by John Wilson Sr., Hereford cattle breeder.

My grandparents and the younger members of the family were able to use a vacant log cabin on Jim Brown's place for shelter the first winter, but the main source of food was bush rabbits — fortunately at the peak of their population cycle. However, a steady rabbit diet for six months, fried, stewed or baked, gets pretty unappetizing by spring.



John Robinson

In the spring of 1896 my grandfather filed on the SE18-35-1-5 and the family soon moved into their own log and sod roofed cabin that summer. They called their farm 'Eagle Ridge'. Those were rainy wet years, and after a prolonged rain, the roof would leak for days afterward. Coming from a large farm home in England and keeping house for a large family in a log shack with no conveniences, ten miles by horse from a trading post, was one of the hardships endured by pioneer women such as my grandmother.

Their nearest neighbors in the first years were the Jim Browns and Alf Carters. The winters were pretty severe to a family that were not used to snow and cold. The men spent long hours cutting and hauling wood for their own use and also hauling it to Innisfail and selling it for a few dollars or exchanging it for groceries. My uncle 'Kit' had his big toe frozen most severely on one long trek and had to have it amputated. This was done by the local doctor without the benefit of any anesthetic.

In the winter, there were house parties with dancing. My aunt Bessie used to tell about the time when they were going to have a house party at her family's home and her older brothers decided to take out a partition between two rooms to allow more room for the dancing. Her father was not too much in favour of this idea, but it was done anyway. The party was a success, but the next day when the boys went to put the partition back, they found that the floor had been danced down an inch or so.

My grandfather helped organize the first Agricultural Society and they started the Innisfail Fair; an annual agricultural event that continued for many years. In the early days, livestock, butter, eggs and grain were traded for groceries, clothing and farm supplies at G.W. West's and some of the later merchants who started stores in Innisfail. If cash was needed to order something from Eaton's or Simpson's catalogue for a special event such as a wedding, a wagon load of grain was hauled to Calgary. This usually took five days with horses, three days down and two back. Sixty bushels of oats at twenty five cents a bushel would net about \$15.00 and that was the only means of obtaining any cash, unless you sold a horse or a cow to a newcomer who had brought some cash with him.

His homestead is still farmed by his great grandson Edgar Robinson and fifteen year old son Larry, who is the fifth generation of Robinson's to work this land. The spruce and maple trees he planted around his log cabin nearly eighty years ago, are still preserved for future generations to see and a reminder that even the early pioneers were interested in conservation.

John Robinson died Feb. 18, 1911 and his wife, Barbara, on April 17, 1911.

Children:

Edmund, known as 'Ted'; married Effie. They lived most of their married life at Okotoks. Both deceased.

Agnes — married Joseph Robinson in England and they came to Canada later than the rest of the family. They lived in Calgary after leaving Innisfail. Both deceased.

Annie — born 1875, married Donald Murray; they lived mostly at Okotoks. After his passing, she lived in Edmonton until her death.

Christopher or 'Kit', born 1877, never married. He passed away when only twenty-five years old. With very limited acreage of cultivated land at that time, prairie fires often started in the spring to help kill brush and improve pastures raced across the country on the heavy growth of old grass often causing the settlers to fight fire around the clock to save their homes and the few possessions they owned. This was the case with my Uncle Kit one spring, after many tiring hours battling the smoke and heat of a prairie fire, he came down with pneumonia. With our modern hospitals and drugs this illness would have been quickly cleared up but he had no hospital to go to and the nearest doctor with very few drugs at that time, ten horse and buggy miles away. Youth and a

rugged constitution fought a losing battle, as many other similar pioneer cases did.

William — born 1878, married Nellie Bell. They left Alberta for Pitt Meadows, B.C. about 1920. Both deceased.

Noble, born 1879, married Hilda Stigings, in 1908. Hilda came from England with her parents Charles and Emma Stigings in 1899. Noble and Hilda farmed the homestead until Noble's death in 1947. He was active on the school board and was a member of the Innisfail Hospital board at the time of his death. He carried on the tradition of raising purebred Shorthorn cattle started at the turn of the century by his father. Hilda Robinson lived in Innisfail until her death in January 1973. Noble and Hilda had two sons: Kit graduated with a B.Sc. from the U of A in 1932. He married Janet Edgar in 1933 and operated the home farm until 1955 when their oldest son Edgar married Elizabeth Mannuel (four children) and took over the farm. Kit went to work for the Prov. Gov't as the first D.A., at Barrhead and later at Ponoka. Their daughter Marian married Ronald Hawkins of Bowden, lives in Vancouver, four children; youngest son Bruce married Carol Benner, lives in Los Angeles, four children. Sherwin married Betty Bye whose father was CPR agent at Innisfail for many years. Sherwin taught school, served overseas with Calgary Highlanders for five years and since worked with V.L.A. in Olds and Farm Credit Corp. in Ottawa. Son Glen married Viki Brand of Ottawa and daughter Pat teaches school in Vancouver.

Dinah, born 1881, married Duke Wildman. They lived in this area for some years before moving to Chilliwack, B.C. Both deceased.

Elizabeth 'Bessie', was born in 1883. She married Whitman Freeman; he passed away in 1909 leaving her and a baby son Joseph. In 1912 she married William Kelly. They continued to farm in the Oklahoma district until her passing in 1927. See the Kelly Story.

Hannah, born 1884, married Jack Moran and moved to the U.S.A. Both deceased.

Isabel, born 1886, married John Wilson; they lived at Okotoks and Calgary. Both deceased.

Joseph K. born 1889, married Allie. They lived at Okotoks and then moved to Virginia, USA. He joined the Innisfail Troop of the 15th Light Horse and went overseas from 1914 to 1918, and was gassed in France. His widow is living in Virginia.

Nellie, married Alf Seymour; they moved to B.C. She is deceased.

WILLIAM (BILL) ROBINSON by John & Diana Robinson

Mr. William Robinson came to Innisfail shortly before the turn of the century after completing his education at Cambridge University, England. He was born in Lincolnshire, England in 1871. His father was a land owner. During the time our father (Wm), was at Cambridge he won several trophies for the 1/4 mile foot race and for rowing.



Bill Robinson

It was in the vicinity of Pine Lake that he first came to ranch. The country was quite unsettled and unspoiled in those days and an old-timer of that era once told him "Young man, the time will come when you will see this country all settled". Our father, having no love for the "sod-buster" and the "moss-back" life which would inevitably follow, didn't believe him.

However, as time went by, the country was settled and when he was later joined by his sister and mother, he homesteaded about 10 miles southeast of Innisfail and it came to be known as Wapoose Ranch. His first neighbors were the Hamilton Bros., Medleys, Hoars and Maynards.

Our mother, the former Maud Hudson was born in Kent, England in 1881. She had been well educated and studied art in Paris. In 1906, she came to visit her brother, Walter Hudson who lived on adjoining land of William Robinson. She was informed there were English people living near and this was where she met our father. They were married in 1907. She was always a great horsewoman and directed and produced several plays in the area.

Wapoose Ranch became a popular meeting place for many young Englishmen who came to seek a new life in the free and open west. Our father organized "Fox Hunts" using coyotes — with hounds and riders. There were quite a few Englishmen in those days as the country appealed to them, especially those who enjoyed the outdoors and the abundance of game and shooting, and riding.

At one time, when a few of them were together in one of the nearby log homes having a social get-together, there was one character who was rather a wet blanket, spoilsport, or for some reason — unwelcome. They didn't like to be rude enough to ask him to leave, so Bill Robinson started to casually toss live shotgun shells into the air-tight wood heater. The results got rid of the unwanted one, and the stove

wasn't damaged too much. Another time when they were having a jolly time singing around the piano, someone noticed the bull was all alone in the yard, so the bull was brought in and tied to the piano leg so that he too could enjoy the music of the evening.

The children born to Mr. & Mrs. William Robinson were: Diana, Nancy (deceased), Elizabeth (Mrs. Peck of Red Deer), and John (Ian).

In the early days, regular trips were made to Innisfail for supplies and a particular friend of our fathers was G.W. West. They would have great visits together.

Father served overseas with the 187th during W.W.I. It was at this time that the family went to England leaving Sid Holden to look after the ranch while we were gone. We returned in 1919 when farming was resumed.

Mr. William Robinson passed away in 1942.

Our mother was well known here as an accomplished artist doing many oil paintings of people of the district and was skilled at getting a near perfect likeness. Mrs. Maud Robinson passed away in 1961.

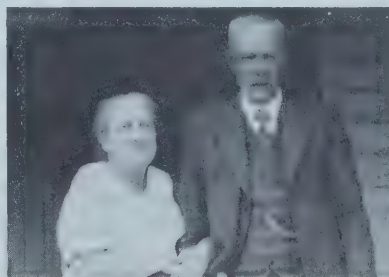
We (John & Diana) still carry on the home place, "Wapoose Ranch" and are raising Registered Angus Cattle. We have taken part in show rings throughout the country and have received many trophies.



Innisfail Coyote Hunt Party, Fair Day, Oct. 6, 1898. Picture includes Mrs. Maynard, Mr. and Mrs. Boucher, F. M. Oldham, Doc Lauder, Jack Varty, Ernest Dodd, Bob Milligan, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert and Howard Wynn.

WILLIAM RODGERS by L. Jensen

Mr. & Mrs. Wm. Rodgers and their three children — Elizabeth, William and Mary Ellen came to the Innisfail district in April 1904. They purchased a farm ten miles northwest of Innisfail through "Maley & Onsum", real estate agents in Innisfail. Mr. & Mrs. Rodgers, Sr. retired in 1928 to Red Deer, where they lived until their passing. One son, Wm. Jr., was killed in action in August 1917.

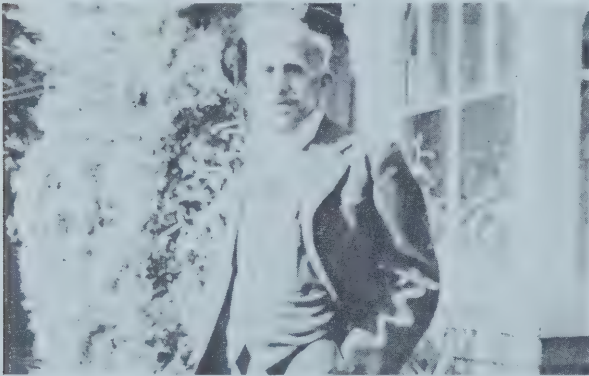


Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Rodgers, grandparents of Laurie Jensen.

FREDERICK MAYBYN ROGERS

F.M. Rogers was a son of a doctor in London, England. He had apprenticed in a bank prior to coming to Canada. He was a type that sought adventure. He arrived in Innisfail, April 17, 1889 with a friend, Edward Jones. Mr. Jones didn't remain here very long.

In 1898 he was in the grocery business. That same year he purchased "Wood Cottage" re-named it Maybyn Lodge and it was later known as Rogers' Park. He was always very active in the Anglican Church, having been choir leader for many years. He was secretary-treasurer for the Innisfail Dairy & Stock Co. Ltd with J.A. Powell as mgr. He was secretary-treasurer of the Agricultural Society and of the Dramatic club (organized Nov. 18, 1898). He later was in the insurance business and a commissioner. It was in 1898 he was appointed the J.P.



Fred Rogers

In 1899 he bought a farm near town with his brother Captain E. Rogers. F.M. Rogers walked to Calgary three times before the railroad came through. It would take him three days each way. It is said he went to Calgary one time to get the mail. He hitched a cow and a horse and when he arrived in Calgary he had no mail, so returned in the same fashion. He told too, how when he would start to walk to Calgary in the winter he would know he would only see three houses before you got to Calgary.

He was at one time the largest land holder in Innisfail with over twenty houses rented plus business places rented — i.e. Flat Iron building, O'Neills, New York Cafe and Inghams.

He had a playground and park equipment with swing, teeters and gliding boats for the enjoyment of children.

F.M. Rogers died in Innisfail in April, 1958 at the age of 90 yrs.

J.T. ROGERS by Catherine Hall and Jack Rogers

Our Dad, James Thomas Rogers, was born in Ontario, July 27, 1866. His parents had come from Northern Ireland. Dad married our mother, the former Catherine Jean Peddie (the youngest of a large family) who had homesteaded near Silvertown, Manitoba.

Before coming to Innisfail, Dad was a hardware merchant having worked for the Smellie Brothers in Shoal Lake and Russell, Manitoba. He came by railway to Innisfail accompanied by Norman Briggs. They bought the hardware from Mr. Percy Goulter and then returned to Manitoba. Dad and Jack came back to Innisfail later in the summer to take over the business. Mother followed later with her two daughters, Mildred (Mid) and Catherine (Tat). We arrived September 18, 1909 and had dinner that night at the Alberta Hotel on railway street where we stayed prior to moving into the house on Hammond St. Mrs. Hazel Munro (Cousins) and Mrs. Dora Gilletley (Marshall) were waiting on tables in the hotel dining room at that time.

Besides Mr. Briggs and Dad, they had Charlie Rummins and Gordon Oyler and later, Andy Lennox as staff as plumbers and tinsmiths. It was Andy that taught Jack the trade. Dad continued with the business until the fall of 1919 when he sold out to Mr. S.A. Fox. Mother passed away May 16, 1919 while she was visiting her folks in Manitoba.

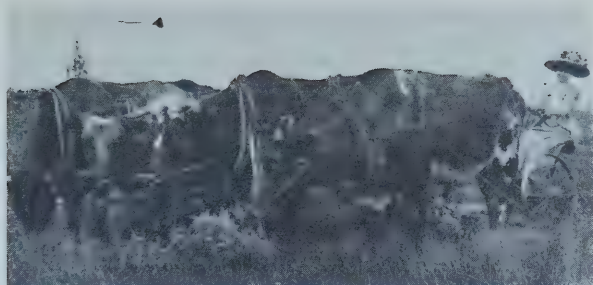
Dad then went into the machine business as the John Deer Agent. Gordon Oyler was with Dad as mechanic. Gordon later moved to Edmonton. Charlie Rummins went into the hardware business in Bowden. Art McKay worked for Dad as salesman. Dad also bought a quarter section of land at Niobe which he and Jack farmed. Jack lived there until 1945 when he sold it to Jack and Lester Wagers. It was through Dad that Hans Christie bought his land at Antler Hill. Dad gave up the machine business and went into Real Estate and Great West Insurance.

Walter McFadyen also worked in the tinshop. He was known as "Skinny". It was he, Andy and Jack that put the tin roof on the old Opera House which was quite a feat in those days.

After Mother died Mid and Tat kept house. Dad bought a few cows and we sold milk to some families



Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Rogers and Mr. and Mrs. Bob Cruickshank (sitting).



Mrs. J. T. Rogers breaking land with oxen, 1911.

in town. We had our saddle ponies to look after plus a big garden so we did have lots of duties to attend to both inside and out.

Our first neighbors were Mr. and Mrs. Andy Lennox (at that time they had no family), Mr. and Mrs. Hector McFadyen with Bessie, Walter, and Ellen; Mr. and Mrs. William Geary, the local druggist with their two sons Grant and Reg; Mr. and Mrs. J.B. McMillan with their two children Aubrey and Frances. Dr. Wagner bought the Geary house and we can remember the day he and his bride and her mother arrived in Innisfail.

I will never forget the blizzards we used to get that would last for two or three weeks at a time. One time Mother was hanging up blankets against the windows to try and keep the hail out. Another time there was a particularly bad hail storm and Dad was still in the hardware then, and he phoned Calgary to send a carload of glass. He sold it all because everyone had their windows smashed from hail.

We were all interested and took part in most sports such as baseball, skating, horseback riding and hockey. I, Tat, was on the hockey team along with Frances McMillan, Katie Thompson, Hattie Law, Bert McLean and sister Mid. Our chaperone was Mrs. Jack Moore. We used to have skating parties on Dodd's Lake too.

It was in the 20's that Dad sold 30 complete threshing units — in one year! This was a great accomplishment.

I, Tat, attended school in Innisfail and went in training at the Calgary General hospital, October 1, 1925. Some of my early school teachers were Miss Graves, Miss Tester and Miss Lawrence. Some schoolmates were Frances McMillan, Jean and Laura Scott, Alberta Cooke, Kathleen and Octavia Bryan, the Nichols, Allan and Bursleigh Moore, Phyllis Wade, and Basil Daines to mention a few.

We remember some of the big fires in town such as the Alberta Hotel, Royal Hotel Livery Barn, Methodist church, Crown Lumber, Whitcombs Livery barn and the tragic fires of G. Oakes and Rutledge families. I, Tat, was a member of the Presbyterian church when Peter Fisher was the minister and I sang in the choir. Mr. McGorman was in charge of the Sunday School. There were always wonderful harvest home dinners that the Ladies Aid of the church put on each year. Rev. Shortt was the minister at that time and later he went on to be the

moderator. The Chautauqua was looked forward to with great interest each fall. Irene McLean was the advance agent who took care of arrangements and was master of ceremonies. The minstrel Show was another annual show put on by the musical members of the community.

Some of the early people we recall are: McFadyen, the grain elevator man; the cattle buyer McMillan; Ewer, the Bank manager; Mr. Badcock the druggist; Jack Gilmour, Miss Simpson the druggist; Bliss Constantine who ran a rooming house and worked for Percy's bakery. William Edgar, farmer; Dave Arnell the Auctioneer; Jim Law with the elevator, Mr. Dillingham, the editor; Hugh and Bill Hodge, merchants; Mr. Thorne had the pool room; G.W. West having the general store.

We used to go to Wongs with Dad for apple cider. Dad was a member of the Masons and the curling club. Red McDonald had the opera house and was manager. Jack used to help put on the dances. Red McDonald had a cream station as did Sexsmith.



Innisfail Hardware. Standing by the cash register, L. to R.: J.T. Rogers Charlie Gray (Clerk), Davie Ennis (Farmer).

The family of Mr. & Mrs. J.T. Rogers were: John James Rogers, born in Russell, Manitoba in 1899. He married Frances J. Sherwood. She died in October 1971. They had two boys, Gerald and Dale of Long Beach, California. Jack is also residing there. Catherine Elizabeth Rogers (Tat) was born in Shoal Lake, Manitoba in 1905. She married Lyle Latimer Hall and lived in Innisfail until moving to Vancouver in 1953. They have two sons James Lyle Hall and John Charles Hall. Mildred Eliza (Mid) Rogers was born in Shoal Lake, Manitoba in 1906. She graduated from the Misericordia Hospital in Edmonton in 1934 and nursed in the Innisfail hospital and was on staff of the Calgary General Hospital for over twenty years. She passed away while on holidays in Vancouver in 1970.

Mr. James Thomas Rogers passed away July 14, 1929 and is interred at the Innisfail Cemetery.

All in all, Innisfail was a pretty wonderful place to grow up in. So many have passed on to their reward, but we feel we still have many friends in Innisfail whose friendship we sincerely treasure.

JOHN & ELLEN ROLLINSON by Irene Calvert

Before coming to Canada, John Rollinson was a green grocer. He would get his fresh fruit and vegetables from the Huddersfield markets and travel with horse and cart through out the riding of Yorkshire. He owned two rows of houses and also kept a few cows and hogs on their small farm of 12 acres.

In September 1906 John Rollinson and his two sons Jim and George came to Innisfail crossing the Atlantic on "The Empress of Ireland." They settled on a farm 8 miles east of Innisfail now owned by Jack Quartly. In April of 1907 the rest of the family joined them: John's wife Ellen and children Ethel (21), Rhoda (13), Norman (15) and Doris (8); Arthur, who had worked in the cloth mills prior to coming to Canada; Jim's wife Elizabeth and two children, Harry (3) and Lilly (8mos).

George didn't like it here so he headed for Australia; he was a cabinet maker by trade but he worked as a sheep shearer in Australia. He died there in 1962.

They bought a bunch of milk cows in Innisfail and had a cream route in Knee Hill Valley and area close around, delivering cream to the Innisfail creamery. The area where they lived was known as the Big Bush. Once when they were hauling cream some timber wolves came out of the bush and followed them; the next time the boys took their guns along, but did not see them again.

Jim and his wife worked for Ben Hooper and Jim Layden for awhile. They then moved to town and lived in a little green house close to where Mrs. John Fry now lives. Here their third child Annie was born. Jim worked in Hodges store for a time. Later they took up a homestead 1 mile east of the Jim Layden farm. While here they once drove in the buggy to Dr. Warkes' place to have Elizabeth's tonsils removed. Before the surgery took place they had dinner with Dr. & Mrs. Warke. While the surgery was going on the children waited outside in the buggy. Jim was by his wife's side. Dr. Warke had a hold of one tonsil with his forceps ready to take it out when Jim fainted, so the doctor left what he was doing (the forceps still in Elizabeth's throat) and revived Jim. Then he

removed the tonsil. Shortly after they drove home again in the buggy.

Ethel married Frank Potter of Innisfail. They had six children: John, Frank, Bert, Irvin, Harry, and Ivor. She died in Jan. 1948, interred in Innisfail cemetery.

In 1910 John and Ellen with Arthur, Norman, Rhoda, Lizzie and Doris moved to Elnora where the boys could get homesteads. John died Feb. 5, 1911 at age 53 (interred in Innisfail cemetery) before he could prove up the homestead. Jim sold his homestead and took over his father's farm at Innisfail. His three children, Harry, Lilly and Annie attended Clarendon School. In May 1915 a tragedy struck the family. This day Harry was helping to unhitch a team of horses and was kicked in the stomach. Dr. Gillray, Dr. Wagner and Mrs. Bilton (a nurse) were called to the farm — they operated on Harry on a table upstairs but he was broken up so badly that nothing could be done for him and he died during the operation. He was born Sept. 1, 1904 and died May 31, 1915. He is buried in the Innisfail cemetery. On June 6, 1920 Jim and his family moved to Elnora to farm and Ellen sold the Innisfail farm to J. Quartly.

Arthur was in WWI with the Canadian Scottish Regiment 1914-1918. He married Clara Robinson in England Dec. 1917. She had worked with him in the cloth mills before he came to Canada. In July 1919 he and Clara and her younger sister Ivy came back to Elnora and took up farming again. Clara is still living on the farm. Arthur died November 1948. Three children — Irene (Calvert), John, Elmer.

Mrs. Ellen Rollinson died in Trochu on Oct. 1, 1934 at age 76. She is buried in Innisfail cemetery.

Elizabeth Rollinson (Yard) died in 1967, interred in Vancouver; five children — Russell, Dorothy, Leonard, Bert, Norman.

Rhoda Rollinson (Pennock) — lives in Innisfail; three children — Harry, Norman, Dolly.

Doris Rollinson (Greenwood) lives on the farm in Lousana; 2 children — Healey and Margaret.

ALFRED GEORGE ROPER by Mrs. Mary Legge

Alfred George Roper, born in 1882, married Mary Wilson in Cumberland, England where they were both born. In 1910 they came to Banff where Alfred owned and operated a livery stable in Bankhead carrying the pay roll for the C.P.R. coal mines. In 1915 he left his family in Banff and came to Innisfail where he worked for Dr. Gilray on his farm east of town. When he later returned to Banff he had one of the first automobiles in the park along with Jim Brewster.

He moved with his family to Innisfail in 1921 settling on the old Burn's homestead in Grahamston district which a year later became the farm of Murgatroyd Bros. In 1924 he moved to Ridgewood and later bought the Morison farm at Big Bend, remaining there until his death in 1950.

He was a stockman and raised purebred Herefords. He and his two brothers took up homesteads in 1910 in the Caroline district; he and his brother Joe Roper



Rollinson Family: L. to R.: Rhoda, Doris, Lizzie, Ellen in doorway, Arthur, Norman holding stallion.

of Lacombe sold their homestead rights to brother Tom whose son John with his family still farms.

As a busy farmer he didn't have much recreation time. He often played the accordin for dances at Big Bend School and in the fall he and Dr. Wagner and Ed Olmschuk used to go duck hunting. He knew all the oldtimers and enjoyed going to town Saturdays to meet his friends.

Children: Mary, now Mrs. K. Legge of Haney, B.C.; and Richard who married Charlotte Morison of the Big Bend district, now living also at Haney.

GUS ROPER by Hamond Gates

Gus Roper was one of the first settlers in the Horse Shoe Lake district, coming here from Salisbury, Wiltshire, England in 1892 and settling on the quarter one mile north of the lake on which he resided till a few years before his death. He bought a cow-herd and started into the cattle business a year or two later, but lost them all in the severe winter of 1896. I was mowing hay 18 years later around the big slough just west of his place and kept running into the bones of what I was told were the remains of his herd. He was so disgusted he never had a cow on his place again.

He remained a bachelor all his life and a very clean, neat and extremely fussy one, too. I well remember going to visit him and the little house was spotless and a trail of clean newspapers was laid from door to stove and stove to table and woe betide anyone who carelessly stepped off the trail.

For many years he was returning officer, or poll clerk, for the elections held in Horse Shoe Lake school house, sharing those duties generally with Matt Hamilton or Bob Smith and later with me. He was a very good man for the job, being just as neat and punctilious there as at home.

He rode a very smart white pony, which could really travel. He could always be seen at the Horse Shoe Lake Picnic, usually pitching horse shoes. He knew everyone for miles around and I used to enjoy hearing him tell of the early days and wish I could remember more of what he told me.

A farewell party was given for him at Fred Hewitt's when he gave up farming and retired to live in Calgary. It was a beautiful summer day and a large crowd turned out to wish him well.

THE ROSENBARO STORY by T.G. Hamilton

In 1894 Bartus Rosenbargo left St. Marys', Ontario with his second son Joe and second daughter Lizzie to come to the Innisfail district where their friends and former neighbors, the Powells, had started a cheese factory.

It was in the Mayton district, southeast of Innisfail, that they built a home, milked cows, and made cheese on their own. During the next six years the rest of the Rosenbargo family gradually migrated to their western home.

In 1895 Bartus' wife, Mary, and their daughters Margaret, Annie and Mabel came west to join the family in Alberta.

In 1900, Charlotte, the oldest of the family of nine and William, the oldest son, who had stayed in On-



Back row: Joe Rosenbargo, Emma Bookless, Anne Weir, Charlotte Rosenbargo, Nell Evans, Maggie Hamilton.

tario with sisters Nell and Emma to look after the farm they still had in Ontario, broke the last ties with their old home and joined the rest of the family in the Mayton district.

It was here that Will and Joe filed on their homesteads and made their home until the time of their deaths — Joe passed away in 1955 and Will in 1962.

In 1896 Lizzie married Charlie Gunston and they made their home in the Knee Hill Valley district.

In 1905 Nell married Harry Evans and made her home in Canmore where her husband was mine superintendent.

In 1906 Annie married Jack Weir and moved to the Olds district. In the same year Emma married Will Bookless and lived for many years in the Nesbit district.

Mable married Andrew Baird and they farmed in the Betchton district. Margaret married Mathew Hamilton and they made their home in the Horse Shoe Lake District.

Bartus Rosenbargo died in 1919 and a few years later his wife and daughter Charlotte moved into a home of their own on the Hamilton farm where they lived until the time of Mary Rosenbargo's death in 1941 at the age of 96 years. Charlotte continued to make her home with the Hamilton family and spent her last days in Innisfail with Margaret Hamilton. She passed away in 1957 in her 90th year.

Today Margaret and Annie are the only surviving members of the Rosenbargo family. Annie makes her home in the Mountain View Lodge in Olds and Margaret is in the Valley Park Manor in Red Deer.

Annie Rosenbargo told of when she was thirteen years old and came to Innisfail and stayed over night. She went to school in Innisfail then and sat with Ivy Cooke.

HUGH ROSS

In the spring of 1870, the Hudsons' Bay Co. were recruiting workers in Scotland to man their York boats, plying their fur trade from the Hudsons' Bay to the North-west Territories. Hugh Ross, 15 years old, left school and signed an agreement to work for two

years in exchange for his passage to Canada. He left Liverpool on July 3, 1870, on a sailing vessel and landed at York Factory on August 22. The boats were then loaded and the Voyageurs started west, stopping for one days' rest at Norway House before crossing Lake Winnipeg to the Saskatchewan river. The foreman of the boat, an arrogant French Canadian, became meaner and meaner because Hugh could not speak French and could hardly keep up with the hardened river men when carrying 90 pound packs over the long portages. By the time they reached Fort Pitt, Hugh could stand it no longer and broke away from the Hudson Bay boats to join with the North West Trading Co. (not knowing that the North West Head office had already sold out to the Hudsons Bay Co.) When the North West boats reached Fort Victoria near Edmonton, the boats were taken over by the Hudsons Bay Co. and the Ross boy had no place to go.

A very kind North West man gave him a muzzle loading gun, some shot and ball, two flasks of powder, five boxes of caps, a tinder box with flint and steel, and a piece of pemmican and a blanket for his wages. He told Hugh to head south for about 400 miles to Fort Benton. Travelling south to the Battle River, he was looking for a crossing when he came upon a trail made by Red River carts and travois. He followed this trail for about a day before catching up with a band of Indians going south with the fall migration of buffalo. The Indians allowed him to travel with them until they came to the mouth of Buffalo Creek, where they stayed until the first snow came. This camping ground became like home to him. Then when the Indians moved south to winter in the Cypress Hills, he continued on to Fort Benton. There was nothing for him there, so he came back to the Cypress Hills and then back to Buffalo Creek in the spring of 1871.

He stayed with different Indian bands, following the migrating buffalo and neither tasted bread or spoke a word of English for the next four years. No matter where or how far he travelled, it always seemed like coming home when he got back to the mouth of the Buffalo Creek where there was plenty of water, wood, and berries for making pemmican. This camp also provided a change in diet, with fish, small game, and mushrooms. There was a lot of work attached to making pemmican. First, butchering a fat, dry Buffalo cow; then cutting the meat into long strips about 3" thick, to be dried on rails over slow fires. Then the dry meat was pounded to a pulp with a stone about 8" long and small enough to get a hand around it in thickness. A heavy tanned buffalo hide was spread on the hard prairie and the women sat around the hide working the pounded meat to the center. After adding enough of the fat, the leg bones were roasted in the fire and then cracked open and the marrow added. Last of all came the dried berries. It was then put into a bag made from rawhide, or the animal's stomach, and then every last pocket of air worked out by a woman tramping on the bag with her moccasined feet. They had no forks or spoons.

Everyone carried a buffalo knife on their belt and would sharpen a stick of wood to hold a piece of meat — or would flatten a stick like a very small garden spade to use for a spoon. When one was finished eating, they would simply toss these in the fire. The knife and fingers were then wiped clean every morning while walking through the wet grass. There were no laws of any kind before the Mounted Police arrived in 1874. Most of the major disputes were settled by the 'kill and be killed' method. Hugh Ross brought a Jews' Harp in his pocket from Scotland, and when tempers flared, he would play a few lively Scottish airs which never failed to please the Indians. This was often the means by which he was able to walk away from a tight and difficult situation. He soon learned hand or sign language, and was able to carry on a conversation in several Indian dialects. By 1875 he was 21 years old and as there were no razors or scissors, he had grown quite a black whisker. He used to tuck his long hair under the neck of his pinto horsehide vest. He sometimes worked for the North West Mounted Police as interpreter and guide — when their own halfbreed interpreter Jerry Potts was unavailable. He got 75c a day with no travelling expenses, while the Mounted Police pay was 50c a day.



Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Ross and Mary.

When the buffalo disappeared in 1878, he worked for the NWMP as a dispatch rider until after the Riel Rebellion was over in 1885. He then squatted near the log trading store and post office that had the name of Cash City. This store was built on Section 4-36-1-5, north of the river, about the time that the first survey was put through in 1883, and was operated by the man who built it until after the railroad grade was built south of the river on Section 34-35-1-5, (now owned by Duncan Manuel). This three quarters of a mile of railroad grade is without doubt the oldest man-made land mark left in this district. The store got its name because the manager would not take anything in trade, and as surveying crews and railroad workers were the only ones with any money,

the early settlers were not long in finding a name for it. The store was abandoned when the railway route was re-located seven miles farther east. After the store had been vacant for a while, Mrs. Frances Graibelle, a widow and sister of Archibald W. Gillingham, started it up again in 1887 or 1888 and took Louis M. Sage in as her partner. Sage had a teenage son by the name of Cache, so the store went under new management by the name of Cache-City.

Mrs. Graibelle was a great lover of horses and had some very fine Morgan horses she brought in from the U.S.A. with Mrs. Gillingham's money. Mrs. Gillingham was a Japanese, the daughter of a wealthy Japanese tea planter. When Mrs. Graibelle and Sage quarreled, Sage took off with Mrs. Graibelle's horses, but was stopped by the police near Red Deer. When Mrs. Graibelle had Sage and the horses brought back to Cache-City, she told the police each horse's name and which stall in the stable each horse would go in when she called them — and the horses did exactly what she said they would do. Sage was given quite a stretch in jail. Soon after this, the Gillinghams left the district and Mrs. Graibelle with them. Cache Sage disappeared and no trace of him was ever found, while Sage was still in jail. Later a large prairie fire wiped out every last stick that was standing at Cache-City.

By this time, a new log store was built at the new railroad by Napoleon Remilard, and given the name of Poplar Grove. When the C & E Railway Company sold out to the C.P.R., the name was again changed to Innisfail.

After the land was surveyed, Hugh Ross homesteaded the Indian camping ground at the mouth of Buffalo Creek and his school-time sweetheart came out from Scotland to join him in September of 1891. Times were very hard for a few years, and if wild game had not been so plentiful, some homesteaders would not have been able to carry on. Hugh Ross enjoyed talking about the early days, and many a long evening was spent telling some very interesting stories.

Hugh's youngest son, Harry Ross, farmed the old homestead, four miles north-west of Innisfail until shortly before his death on Sept. 5, 1971; Charles, the eldest son, is still alive.

ARTHUR E. RYAN by Arthur E. Ryan

I was born in southern Manitoba in March 1885. I joined the Union Bank staff on April 3, 1903 and was transferred to Innisfail in February 1906 where I worked under Mgr. W.R. Wilson until transferred to Prince Rupert, B.C. in December 1909. Since then I have worked in numerous branches throughout the west. In 1945 I was pensioned off and have lived happily ever since. In any event nearly happy.

While in Innisfail, I boarded at the Constantines'. I remember other boarders there — a Mr. Clark, a Scotsman who worked in a bank in Scotland before coming to Canada; and A.E. Hall — thought to have had very prominent family connections in the east. My friends were in part the following: Dr. G.R.D. Lyon; Dr. Membry; Arthur Carpenter; Dan

Morkeberg; H. McDermid; Bob Shaw; Alex Munro; and the Watt Brothers.

SPORTS



Curling on Dodd's Lake. Some of those in picture are W. C. A. Watt, Sandy Dundas, Ted Onsum and W. G. Wilson.



Winners at Calgary Bonspiel in 1920. Front row: Mrs. Oscar Watt, Mrs. W. C. A. Watt. Back row: Mrs. H. J. Percy and Mrs. Alex Munro.



Showing off a day's catch. L. to R.: A. Lennox, Rev. Goddard, Bill Beaty and John Carr.



Bear killed where Stramit stands today; 1894. ?, Bill Courtney, P. Motcheck, C. Springgay, Mr. Nichol, Tom Dobson.



Aberdeen Baseball Team in 1923.



Innisfail Football Team 1909-1911. Back row: Wm. McRae, F. Laing, J. Bastim, A. Archibald; 2nd row: R. H. Fairley (Pres.), Tom Kirkham, Fred Watkins, W. G. Wilson, D. H. Kremer, Wm. Hodge, S. C. Lundy, E. F. Ludlam; 3rd row: Cecil Cull, D. Marshall, A. W. Fellows; front row: A. E. Ryan, O. O. Watt, R. J. Sharpe.



Big Bend Football Team 1905. Conns, Batemans, Munro's and E. Sullivan.



Little Red Deer Football Team 1912-13



Innisfail Football Team 1918. Back row, R. to L.: Fred Watkins, Frank Cole, A. Fellows; center row, R. to L.: P. Hill, Rev. J. Orton, J. Laidler, J. Saunders; front row, R. to L.: Fleet Kirkham, Robert Fellows, H. J. Percy, Francis Barrington, Bill Wilson.

LOUIS M. SAGE by Lena Munro

L.M. Sage was a very surly looking man, about 5'8" with sandy hair and steel blue eyes. He escaped jail in the States (he was serving time with Jesse James, according to stories at the time) and fled to Canada in the early 1890's.

He settled in a big house on the farm owned now by Gordon Conn. This was then known as Cashe Post Office for the west country and he ran the Post office for awhile. (see Hugh Ross story).

Later he squatted in a little log shack just west of the Dodd's pasture. By now he had accumulated a few horses and did some freighting. Norman

Stewart, then a boy of 18 living at Red Deer Crossing, accompanied Sage on a trip north. When Norman returned, he said he had learned a whole new vocabulary, the like of which he had never heard before.

Sage then moved into a small log shack down near the river on the old Hess place (now in the Parks estate) and worked at odd jobs for Ernie and Wm. Dodd. One day while threshing he cut his hand badly and Ada Dodd, Ernie's wife, wanted to take him to the doctor. He wouldn't go but just pulled off the loose skin; but it hurt him bad enough he didn't eat any dinner.

He now bought the quarter section of land where George Eliuk now lives. The Little Red Deer road ran angling through this quarter. Our family (Geo. Atkinsons) lived on the next farm west. In the ravine that ran down to the lake, he built himself a bank house facing east with one window. This was the only wall you could see as the rest was dug into the bank; it had two rooms. He still had horses and accumulated more dogs all the time. When he rode his buckskin horse into town 19 to 29 dogs would be following him. He was quite deaf and if he was in a group where people were talking and he couldn't hear, he would just get into a huff and leave — he seemed to think they were talking about him; and if they had known his background, maybe they would have been. He made very few friends, but Geo. Atkinson and Ernie Dodd were his friends through life.

After an episode involving a dying horse that he refused to move from beside the LRD road — the police went out at night and moved it — he fenced across the road with one wire, and people going to LRD had to circle north and east around his land. There was lots of open range then and once Simpson's horses passed his place and he set his dogs on them. Our cows used to stray there sometimes, but the only thing he did to them was milk some of them, then open our gate and send them home. Our pail-fed calves strayed that way once and they all came home with their tails cut off as short as possible. You pretty well knew who had done it but you didn't have proof.

None of us had too much threshing at that time and once he was away when the threshers came. My dad was running the outfit, so they did Sage's threshing and put the grain in his granary. When he came home, apparently he didn't think there was enough grain. Several mornings later we found holes bored several places around the bottom of our granary. Our grain was different, and he must have thought we had put some of his in the bottom.

Elsie and I used to pass his place to go skating on Dead Man's Lake. One day he asked us in to have tea with him, and he had as good bread as any woman could make. He often served raspberries and biscuits to Mr. & Mrs. Ernie Dodd. His house was always clean and neat, even though he wasn't.

One winter Daddy and Mr. Sage went hunting out near Rocky Mountain House. Times were pretty hard for Sage and he wanted the meat. They didn't get

anything and when Daddy figured it was time to go home, Sage and his old Bulldog sat in the middle of the tent until Daddy had it down, folded and put in the wagon to go home. Sage finally got into the wagon but didn't speak a word on the way home.

He was getting older and not able to work; as I think of it now, I wonder how he lived. Around 1916, he took sick and Dr. Wagner brought him into the old hospital where Cossey's apartments are now. He was quite ill, but still able to cuss at Dr. Wagner and the nurse who insisted on giving him a bath. He died there and I'm sure many secrets went with him.

GENIEVE MICHELLE by Margaret Wilson

The greatest little pioneer was my grandmother, whom we all lovingly called Nookum, a Cree word for grandma. She was born on Feb. 4, 1830 in a Cree encampment or village at Great Slave Lake. Her mother was Cree and her father a French Hudson's Bay Factor.

As a child, Nookum played with dolls made of buckskin and dressed in fur. The Indian girls made miniature travois which they attached to dogs to give their dolls a ride. It was during these years Nookum learned to do the beautiful embroidery work on buckskin using solid porcupine quills. These were colored in beautiful shades with dyes made from barks of trees, the buds of red willow and soft clay stone, using alum to set the dyes.

As a young girl, she went every summer with her mother's people on the buffalo hunt, sometimes as far east as Manitoba and south to Montana. They often came through the area now Innisfail. In the very early days, Nichi Hill, where Stramit now is situated, was a frequent camping ground. After her marriage, Nookum occasionally joined the Crees for a while in the summer, taking her children with her. At that time, the Innisfail area saw lots of battles between the Cree and Blackfoot Indians. In those days there was no scrub bush in the area; just great big poplar trees and lots of grass. The buffalo wintered in the area where the town of Innisfail now is.



Mary St. Denis and her mother, Genieve Michelle ("Nookum").

Once my mother was playing with some other children near Mud Lake when five naked Blackfeet came riding down. Most of the children, as Nookum had taught them, hid in the water among the reeds, breathing through a straw. The Blackfeet caught one small girl and after scalping her, tomahawked her in the back. It was around this time that Nookum herself was scalped. Many of Innisfail's pioneers will remember that she always wore a black kerchief over the top of her head and tied across her forehead; this covered the bare spot where she had been scalped.

She was seventeen when she was married at Lac Ste. Anne to Nipissing Michelle by Father Lacombe. Nookum had earlier taken classes with Father Lacombe and learned to read and write in Cree. Grandma and Grandpa Michelle had thirteen children.

They lived at Rocky Mountain House while Grandpa Michelle was freighting supplies to and from Calgary. At that time the Indians were being paid 25 cents for mink hides, lynx 50 cents, coyote 50 cents and buffalo hides, \$2.50. About the year 1874 the buffalo began to be very scarce in the west, and the family used 100 lbs. of flour in a year, considered a great extravagance. The last wild buffalo Nookum remembered seeing was about 1879. In 1874 a friendly Blackfoot Indian warned the people at the Rocky Mountain House Fort that a party of Blackfoot Indians from the south was on its way to massacre the people at the Fort. All those at the Fort fled on horseback during the night to Edmonton. Two days later the Blackfeet arrived and burned the fort to the ground.

They moved to Calgary where Grandpa Michelle (they later used Mitchell as their name) freighted for the I.G. Baker outfit of forty Red River Carts. The Baker Company used metal discs in their trade and bartering. In 1885 he left this work and became the leader of the scouts leaving with a detachment of NWMP for Battleford, Saskatchewan. After the 1885 rebellion, they moved to Edmonton where grandpa was an interpreter and guide for Father Lacombe while Nookum acted as his housekeeper.

When Mr. Mitchell died in 1898, Nookum came to Innisfail to live with her daughter, Mrs. Mary St. Denis, and she lived here for 18 years until moving to Red Deer in 1916 to reside with another daughter, Mrs. Bella Johnson. While living in Innisfail, Nookum raised two of her grandchildren, Pete and Agnes Johnson. I can remember her working on wonderful bead and quill work and the most pretty home-made quilts. She made her last quilt when reaching her 100th birthday and unable to see very well. Nookum was very much mentally alert until her death in 1934 at the age of 104 years.

PIONEER DAYS OF THE ST. DENIS FAMILY by Margaret Wilson (nee St. Denis)

My father, Louis St. Denis, came to settle in 1882 the area now known as Innisfail. He was born in 1850 in Manitoba, probably Qu'Appelle or St. Boniface. While he was freighting, he liked the land, water, and green grass of this area and decided this is where he

would locate. He came west with a freighting train; my grandfather Michelle was a Hudson Bay Factor who owned 36 Red River carts and oxen and dad worked under him for several years. Freighting from Winnipeg was a trip of 5 to 5-1/2 months. Oxen were very slow, but had a lot of staying power. A team of oxen could pull the three or four loaded carts at a time, but only travelled 1-1/2 miles an hour. They later more or less changed over to using horses. A horse could walk 4 miles an hour without an effort, but in those days there was no such thing as horse shoeing, hence the horses had to be changed quite often owing to sore feet. Then it wasn't too profitable, as the Indians would raid their relay horse stations and steal the horses.

My father was married to Mary Jean Michelle in Calgary August 25, 1882 by Father Lacombe. She was born in Qu'Appelle on October 20, 1860. They had four children: John, born Jan. 3, 1893; myself, Margaret, born Aug. 6, 1895; Oliver, born May 12, 1897; and Louis, born Dec. 13, 1899.

Dad was more or less self-employed, as he had a large herd of horses, as well as three race horses. He worked with John A. Simpson in the lumber business in Innisfail. The race track then was around Dodd's Lake (no lake at that time). He tragically met his death in 1899 when a thoroughbred mare he was exercising ran away with him. His was the first burial in our present cemetery. He had helped to survey and had fenced the cemetery, so our family was given a lot in it. At that time it was a corner lot, but now it is situated in the middle of the east side.



What impresses me mostly is the way mother managed with four wee ones with no help, as in those early days there was no welfare or anything of the sort. She had little knowledge of the English language — only some French and Cree. Dad had done all the buying and after his fatal accident she was left suddenly to face it all alone. Our homestead was where what is now called the Margodt place. Right after Dad's death, our horses were stolen right and left, even though all horses were branded in those days. Tom Lauder knew our brand and whenever he recognized one of our horses, he helped us to get it back. Some we even unharnessed on the main street of town and took home. After dad died, mother was



Oliver St. Denis

John St. Denis

trying to straighten out outstanding bills. She went to Mr. Douglas who had a feed and flour store, also wagon parts and harness. Douglas said dad owed for a wagon reach, at that time worth about \$3.50. As we had no money, mother said he would have to take a horse and give the balance to her in flour and some feed. He took the mare that had caused dad's death, but she got no flour or anything. Chief Crowfoot once said the Indian went out to scalp his enemies, but the white man scalped his friends. It seemed so true in this case.

We had a wonderful mother who had nothing but hardship and hard work. She was our father, mother, guardian, and teacher. She taught us honesty and truthfulness never come amiss. We are proud to have mother's Indian nationality. She was a well respected citizen, and it's sad to think she had to suffer her last fourteen years as an invalid. She passed away January 10, 1942.

John was a good horseman. He rode race horses for Dodds and McLean of Calgary when only 12 years of age. He enjoyed hockey and baseball. Oliver was a bronc rider. He rode in the first stampede at Hand Hills and won. He also played some hockey and football. Louis was our real athlete; hard to beat in baseball as a pitcher and was always being sent for to play for some ball club; he was an excellent hockey player and he could run like a jack rabbit.

I can remember once when Jenny Dodd was herding their sheep barefoot in a hollow north of Nichi Hill; Oliver and I were watching and wanted to chase the sheep.

We got all our schooling in Innisfail. I have my old desk and the bell from my first school — the brick place where Dr. Godkin now lives — which was in the lot where the present curling rink is now. Then I moved to the school just east of the other, still in the same grounds as the curling rink. Later that school was cut in two and made into two residences, still in use on 46th street. When we went to school, we were in Standards instead of Grades as now. Our first

teachers were Miss Mable Constantine, Miss York, Miss Haig, Mr. Aylesworth, and Mr. Bill Norman. In 1907 we moved to the big school which was demolished several years ago to make room for the United Church. My closest school chums were Mary Barwis ('Doolie') and Dora Lauder. Mr. Norman called us the three demons. We gave him a bad time. Annie Thomson was also a school chum but she was a timid quiet girl and didn't get into any mischief with the rest of us. Dora, Doolie, and Annie were cousins as Mr. Frank Thomson, Mrs. Barwis and Mrs. Lauder were brother and sisters. Annie's mother was a Stony Indian. Her father, Frank Thomson ran a ferry across the Red Deer River before they moved into town in 1903.

I remember once in school a boy put a pin in the end of his ruler and stuck me. I yelled and stood up to retaliate, when Mr. Norman threw a book at me and I threw it back at him.

Once Daisy Fream locked Oliver in the toilet; when she told her mother about it after school, she made her go back to unlock the door and let him out, but he had already escaped.

I had long hair worn in braids and once some kids stuck some flypaper onto the braids. We were often 'picked on' by the other children until Tom Lauder taught us how to fight.

Our early recreation was baseball, hockey, tennis and football. Football was a lot different in early days when they kicked the football and today they look and act much like outdoor mean wrestlers. We had a nice tennis court and a curling rink was situated west of the feed mill and north of the present Stramit. The school children did all their curling on Dodd's Lake and all our skating was done there in the early years. I remember our first curling bonspiel. Our team consisted of John, Oliver, Frank Thomson, and myself. We were to play against Orlie Foster, Shep Barwis, Turner Fumerton and Fleet Kirkham, and we had to furnish our own rocks. Mother didn't have the money to buy us rocks, so she went to the nuisance grounds and picked up four sauce pans with handles. At that time (1908) all pans were enamelled very heavily — not the thin enamel of today. She put



Maggie and Louis St. Denis

sand in the bottom of the four pans, then put a good-sized rock in each and filled them with snow and water, leaving them outside to freeze. We won with our saucepan rocks.

When we wanted a toboggan, mother went to the dump again and opened up a salt barrel — they were big and tied all around with baling wire. She cut the wire at one end, opened out the wood and turned up the end and there was our toboggan, which skidded down the hill and was light, too.

John married Theresa Houghton of England. He enlisted in September 1914 and was with the first Canadian Division to arrive in France on Feb. 15, 1915. He had enlisted with the 1st Canadian Mounted Rifles in Medicine Hat; was wounded in the battle of Ypres May 4, 1915, and was back in France in October 1916, this time with a Canadian Red Cross unit until the end of the war. He was one of the few Canadians awarded the 1914 Mons Star. He was also awarded the D.S.M. — M.M., Long Service War medal and Victory medal. He died July 19, 1963 in Innisfail.

Oliver enlisted in the Lord Strathcona Horse in February 1917. He was sent overseas to England the same year, but was too young to go to France, so was kept in England as an equipment man in the harness department. He had a Service medal and Victory medal. Oliver married Rebecca Caroline Langley of Caroline. He died April 15, 1969 in Innisfail.

Louis enlisted with the Canadian Engineers in August 1940 and served in England as a corporal during the heavy blitz. He has the Military Service and Victory medals. He married Pauline Petersen.

I, Margaret, married H.P. Wilson of Innisfail. I have 3 children.

I lived and worked at the Royal Hotel in Innisfail for five years and was there when it burned down in 1923. Charlie Beer (known as Charlie Pop) started the fires for the cook early each morning. That morning he was drunk and used some coal oil or gas to start the fire — he was burned and died. I got out of the hotel with very little clothing on and of course lost all my belongings in the fire. The chinaman lent me some socks for my feet. Many of the men in the hotel escaped by jumping off the roof to another building. I had to laugh at Joe Morran — he was on the roof still dressed in his long nightshirt and had put his leg into the arm of his long-johns, but he finally managed to jump to safety anyway.

My brother Louis has resided in Calgary for the last eight years and I am the only one left of the family living in Innisfail. We never had much but we were a happy and devoted family. The house where I live is the first home John Lauder built for his family in Innisfail and I can watch the cars speeding by where once only the buffalo and Indian wandered.

THOMAS U. SARCHET by Russell E. Hargreaves

Tom Sarchet was born in Prairie City, Iowa, March 16, 1864. He passed away, Sept. 10, 1953 in Spokane Wash. Mrs. Sarchet was the former Mary Ethel Newton from Michigan. They were married in 1890.

They arrived in Innisfail to homestead from Knoxville, Nebraska. They shipped their settlers effects including horses from Nebraska by rail to Innisfail and came out from Innisfail to the homestead in the Milnerton District (east of Innisfail) by team and wagon in March, 1902. Mr. and Mrs. Sarchet and son Cecil came early in March, the rest of the family followed at the end of March. (Pearl, Zella, Hugh and Hal.) Sons Fred and Debs were born here. Pearl married Heber Hargreaves on Dec. 11, 1913.

They had corn farmed in Nebraska prior to coming to Alberta. Here they milked cows and raised horses.



Mr. Sarchet

Sarchets lived on the Currie place for two years until they moved on to their own homestead in 1904. They drove to Innisfail for their staples (18 miles in a wagon or democrat) They got most of their supplies from G.W. Wests' general store. Their greatest hardships were shortage of money and long distances to travel with team and wagon or sleigh.

In 1911 the Sarchets' bought an apartment house in Red Deer. They traded this house for land and eight houses at Lamont, Washington in 1914.

JOSEPH SARGENT by Mrs. Hibbert

Joseph Sargent and his wife Kitty came to the Calder district from Maberly, N. Perth, Ontario in 1900. They farmed until 1912 and then retired to Innisfail. The Calder school was built on two acres in the SE corner of their land in May 1903. Many of the teachers boarded with the Sargents for twelve dollars per month. Drinking water for the school was carried by the pupils the half mile from the Sargent home.

The Sargents also kept a stopping-house for new settlers who were going farther east and they were always ready to help in building log buildings; a trade Joseph had learned in Ontario.



Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Sargent

Their nephew, Wm. Sargent, lived with them as did a niece, Miss Kate Sargent. Kate married a Mr. Armstrong and moved to Alhambra, California. The Sargents also raised Mr. J. Layden. Mr. Sargent died April 1923 and Mrs. Sargent, at age 91, on April 27, 1936. They are buried in Innisfail.

HARRY SATURLEY By Mrs. Gerry Foster

Harry Saturley, aged sixteen years, was placed alone on board a ship and sent with little funds to Alberta with the hopes that the change in climate from his native London, England, would cure his consumption. On July 26, 1888 he arrived at Sheep Creek south of Calgary, to stay at the Quorn Ranch. Harry's health improved. He wrote home of the homestead opportunities and in 1889 a cousin, Jim Lutley, was sent out to look after Harry. Harry had the money and Jim, age 26, had the experience. They travelled north, looking over land, stopping at 'The Spruces' and the 'Red Deer Crossing', and continuing as far north as Lacombe. They returned south to purchase oxen and equipment and Lutley homesteaded on land 1 1/2 miles southeast of Penhold Village (Harry was not yet old enough to file). Using oxen, some 20 acres were made ready during 1890 for the next season's crop. It was a very dry year and a disastrous fire starting at Calgary swept the whole country, extending, after reaching Antler Hill, to Hill End and circling back and coming in across their land from the North, ending at the grade built for the railroad. Their breaking was the means of saving their few buildings and belongings. Even the soil was burnt out and nothing really grew until the wet seasons began in 1900.

Jim Lutley turned his share over to Harry Saturley and left for B.C. in Nov. 1896. Harry kept the ranch and worked it with hired help for many years. He married a neighbor's daughter, Julia Gillis. In 1905 they sold the 'Lutley Ranch' to Henry Barkemeyer moving to a place two miles away to be closer to the Gillis family. Harry and Julia had two children. He was Mgr. of Crown Lumber Co. in Innisfail and was town councillor in 1912.

THE STORY OF WILLIAM HENRY SAUNDERS By Mrs. Blanche Holt

William Henry Saunders, better known as Billy, came to Canada in 1903. He was born in Franktown, Ontario on March 21, 1869. He came to the Knee Hill Valley district. He and Charlie White, who is

very well known in the district, came from North Dakota, seeking homesteads. After locating one, Dad sent for his wife and family (Lila & Blanche) to follow.

Billy Saunders' father passed away when he was only seven years old. As there were three younger children, he had to help his mother support the family. At the early age of 14 years, he was working in a camp. His mother also worked out, leaving the smaller children with relatives. They first lived in Ontario, then took up a homestead in Lawton, North Dakota. But due to dry weather conditions, they decided to come to Alberta to re-establish on a farm here. Home grown vegetables, rabbits, prairie chickens and wild fruit were the main part of the food supply.

Billy Saunders married Rosa Maria Sackenreuter, a young girl from Lawton, N.D. who was born in Chicago, Illinois. Billy and Rosa had six children:

Lila Bertha, born in Lawton, N.D. Oct. 16, 1901; (she married Clinton McMullen); Mary Blanche, born in Lawton, N.D. Jan. 27, 1903 (she married Clarence Holt); Richard LeRoy born in K.H.V. Aug. 11, 1904 (married Florence Smith); William Lloyd, born Feb. 23, 1909 (married Ruth Cook from Red Deer); Allan Lester, born Aug. 23, 1913 (married Chrissie Gerrard); Edna May, born May 12, 1915 (married Earl Roberts of Elnora).

A few of the early neighbors were Jim Steadmans, Leroy Dawson, Norman Murray, etc. Billie went to school in the winter time, but only as far as grade three. He was a very good reader, and could figure things like arithmetic out better in his head than we could with pen and pencil. As his Mother never remarried, he stayed with her helping her out through all hard times. She lived to the ripe age of 94 years. Billy was 33 years old when he married Rosa on December 12, 1900.

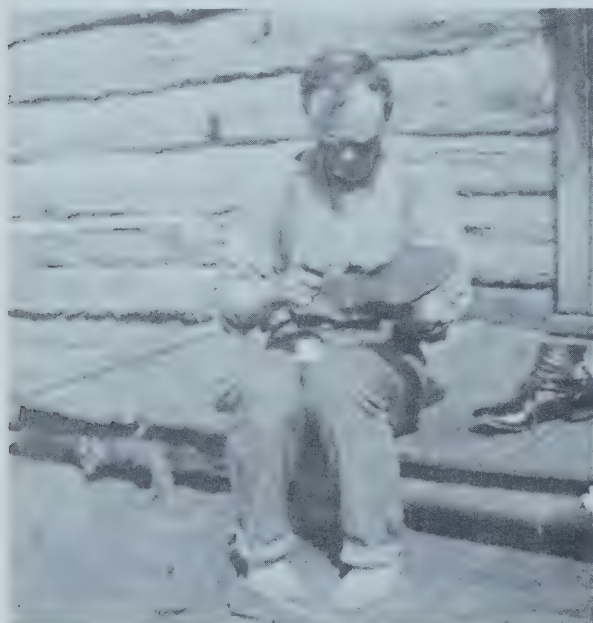
When they arrived here from North Dakota, there were no buildings on their homestead, so the first winter they lived in a vacant house on a quarter nearby, until they got a granary built. My brother Roy was born in the granary. This vacant home was



The Saunders: Lila, Blanche, Mrs. Saunders, Roy, Mr. Saunders, Lloyd.

so cold my father and mother took turns staying up to keep the fire burning and keep everything from freezing. Of course, all there was was wood to burn. It was so cold, we moved to another empty house that belonged to Hådens; they sold it to Hamptons before we could move out, so we all lived together for awhile. I think many know Sim Hampton, one of the boys of the Hampton family. Finally we got a log house completed which we lived in for many years.

Times sure were very hard those days — I can remember my mother and father telling of the times they came to Innisfail on terrible roads for groceries from West's and how Mr. West would accept eggs, butter, grain, etc. for groceries as there was little money. We children always looked forward to the groceries as there was a nice bag of candy tucked in them for us. Sometimes my parents would share flour and other groceries with neighbours and the next time they in return would share back.



Mr. Saunders doing some 'fixin' and polishing.

There was a store and post office built at Knee Hill Valley, also a blacksmith shop, and Bill Whealon ran it and was indeed a busy man. I can remember my dad telling a joke on one of the store-keepers — he was weighing out some candy and in order to make it balance out right, he had to eat a couple.

We had wonderful times on the farm long ago, but it must have been hard going for our parents, especially when we were too small to help work. The first summer we were out here, my sister Lila got lost. The grass was very tall, and she had followed the dog and the dog returned home without her. She was gone all day; people came from a great distance to search for her. I wouldn't know how the word got around, as there were no telephones. It was around midnight when she was found in a quarter section about half a mile or more from home. My Uncle John Saunders,

brother of my Dad and Will Pendergast found her sleeping beside a haystack, which was very close to a creek of deep water. They were following the creek when they spotted her. When they picked her up, she said "Mummy gone." Some had thought maybe coyotes had got her, or perhaps she had drowned in the creek or fallen in some old well.

Another tragic time was when our barn burnt down; we never knew the cause of it even though we were home at the time. My brother Roy's best driving team was burnt. It was terrible having those poor creatures burn to death; but no way would they come out of the building. A few days later the whole neighborhood came and helped erect another barn.

The Saunders family all attended Steadman school. Some of our teachers were: Miss Alma Whealon, Miss Jennings, and Miss Morrison. Schoolmates: Fred and Gordon Smith, Annie Murray, Lorne and Kirkwood Steadman, Gordon and Myron Steadman and Lola, Harlon King, etc.

In 1947 my father and mother retired in Innisfail and my youngest brother, Lester, took over the home place. Even then my dad went back and forth in the spring and summer giving a helping hand. Dad didn't have much desire to travel in later years but was content just being in his own home town of Innisfail.

His wife Rosa predeceased him in the year of 1952; and his second eldest daughter, Blanche, lived with him till his passing Dec. 18, 1957. Billie and Rosa Saunders are buried in the Innisfail Cemetery. Except for Lila, who passed on in 1954, the rest of Bill Saunders family are still well and active.

In 1893 Innisfail consisted of the Murray Hotel, G.W. Wests' Store, Constantine store and the C & E Depot. The Murray Hotel was destroyed by fire some years later.

CECIL OLDRING SAVAGE by Kathleen L. Jensen

As a young boy, my Dad had a dream of proving up a homestead in Western Canada. He was brought up in a home with servants, and this dream was against his parents' wishes. He left home to work several years in a grocery store, saved \$29, and left for Canada in 1904 on a cattle boat. He must have been lonely and cold — he had no blankets — only the clothes he wore. He worked as a farm labourer in the East for two years, saving his money, and in 1906 came West to Innisfail. From there he had a long uncomfortable trip to his homestead at Raven as it was wet weather and wagons easily mired in the 'roads'. After proving up his homestead, he worked at various jobs around the country, threshing (steam) with McGrandle and met his future wife, Lillian, while working at the King Edward Hotel in Innisfail. Her parents, Mr. & Mrs. George Jacobs, ran the Hotel for a year receiving only room and board. Cecil left the hotel to work as a line-man for the telephone company in Calgary. Lillian wrote to him 'news' of the

hotel — "... the flies are awful in the kitchen ...such an unhealthy place ...the cellar is flooded and Mother is afraid of getting a fever ..." and in a letter to A.E. Keast, July 16, 1912: "...they put in an organ and we all took turns playing it..."

Lillian and Cecil were married on his only day off — Christmas Day, 1912. He was away so much as a line-man that he quit the job and in 1913 went to Elko, B.C. to run a ranch. The family returned to Alberta in 1917, buying a quarter section from Frank Ross. By the time Dad was getting some good crops and building a herd of cattle and pigs, the depression hit. However, my mother was thrifty and could sew, so we were well dressed and fed. I can remember my Dad getting a fellow, a Mr. Davenport, from Innisfail, to chop grain for him — the power was two horses going round and round on a sort of merry-go-round thing. Gum was a treat — there was just enough sticks in a package for our family of eight; bananas cost 5c each and we would be lucky to have one a year.

Cecil Oldring Savage B. 1886, Norwich, Eng. m. Lillian Heath Jacobs.

Children: Kathleen B. 1915 (Jenson); Evelyn B. 1917; Bill & Marjorie B. 1919; Jim; Pat; Fred; Irene.

SCARFE STORY by Mrs. Hazel Fisher

Henry Scarfe married Harriet Brent in Nova Scotia and they had 5 children: Walter, Obe, Muriel, William and Vera, (all born in Nova Scotia). The family came to Innisfail in 1902. Henry was a very good carpenter and built the Fumerton Store, the Innisfail Hardware for Percy Goulter.

The family left in 1903 for Walla Walla, Washington. Here they bought a boat and had an accident where Henry lost his life. The family returned to Innisfail going to the Aberdeen district in 1905. Mrs. Scarfe married Ted Heine.

In 1907 the Scarfe family received a large inheritance from Henry's brother in Australia. Mrs. Heine now built a beautiful house. Bill and Obe bought a steam engine each and a new car. Bill had papers to run a steam engine. These young men decided to sell wood in Innisfail so loaded up several wagons of wood to be hauled by the steam engines. On the way to town, these large machines broke all the culverts and upon reaching Innisfail they discovered they barely had enough wood to take them home as the engines had burnt up so much. There was nothing to do but to go back home.

Walter left for Australia. Muriel married Willie Brokoff. Vera married Bert Crack. Obe, my father, married Mable Lee. We lived near my grandparents in Red Raven. I started school there. I remember my Grandmother buying me a pair of shoes to go to school. When we got to the store, there were only boy's shoes left. How I hated those shoes!

We moved back to the Innisfail district when I was about 8 years old. We lived not far from Mr. and Mrs. Dennis. Mrs. Dennis used to lend me the Ladies Home Journal. Dad made me a boat which I could ride in, but I never caught many ducks! I then attended Buffalo Creek School. We were short of

money, like so many at the time, and Mother used to make beads from silver willow seed pods. She sold these to Mrs. Dennis to send home to England.

Dad died in 1957 walking home from Aberdeen. Mother sold the farm and came to Olds where she lived until her passing in 1970 at the age of 80 years.

JAMES SCARLETT HISTORY From Thomas Thompson Scarlett

My father was born near the town of Seaforth, Ontario. His family was of Irish decent who had immigrated to Canada after their oldest son was born. They took up farming near Seaforth where eight more children were born—three girls and five boys. In the spring of 1887 father and his brother Sam came west and took up land just east of the town of Carstairs. Bringing horses and cattle with them, they built buildings on a well sheltered spot in the wide ravine that ran through the land. Freighting was all done by ox team and so they had the first stopping house north of Calgary. Fred Rogers was one of the early freighters.

An exciting episode happened about this time when a Mountie stopped for dinner with a prisoner he was taking in for murder. At this time the mounties wore their gun in the top of their boot. While eating dinner the prisoner reached down and got the mounties gun and held everybody at bay, while he got a horse and made his get-a-way. He was never found and the Mountie lost his job.

It was in the spring of 1903 that father took up homestead land in Little Red Deer and later homestead land in Oklahoma district.

In 1894 he married the daughter of his next door neighbor Estella Wildman. They raised a family of four boys and one girl. Ralph, William, John, Thomas and Grace.

I, Thomas Thompson Scarlett was born in 1899 in Little Red Deer. I married Jamesina B. McKay in 1925. We have 7 sons and one daughter: They had their education in Little Red Deer, Red Deer and Innisfail: Eileen (Mrs. Herman Schweiger) a graduate nurse from the Calgary General hospital has one son. James married Margaret Ouster and has three children. George married Ila La Casse and has 3 children. He has his degree in Education. Ralph



Thomas Scarlett Family

married Joyce Guiloff and has three children and he too has his degree in Ed. Gordon married Joan Czerkas and has 3 children. Ronald married Anne King and has 2 children. Glen married Joan Lewis; farms in Little Red Deer and lives on Scarlett original land. They have one son. Russell completed two years at Technical school and married Myra Hileman.

James Scarlett arrived from Seaforth, Ontario in 1893. He and his brother Sam kept a stopping house at Didsbury.

In 1894 James and Estella Wildman were married, the second wedding in Little Red Deer. He farmed in the Little Red Deer District until 1927.

Grace Scarlett and Raymond Manuel were married on Nov. 8, 1933 in Vancouver. They have two daughters: Elizabeth (married Edgar Robinson in 1956, and lives in the Gordon district. They have 5 children) and Estella (married Edward Lewis in 1954 and they lived in the Little Red Deer district and had 5 children. Estella was born in 1934 and Elizabeth in 1936.

JOHN EDWIN SCARLETT

My father James Scarlett came from Seaforth, Ontario to the Innisfail district in 1893. They settled in the Little Red Deer District. The main thing in those days that settlers looked for was a good water supply. My parents came west because of adventure and wide open spaces.

It was in 1887 that Mr. & Mrs. Moses Wildman and son Marmaduke (Duke) and daughter Estella arrived in the Little Red Deer District. James Scarlett married Estella Wildman in January of 1894 in the Anglican Church in Innisfail with Rev. H. Braiser officiating. This was the second wedding in the Little Red Deer Settlement — the first being Annie Levic & John Brown.

Other settlers arriving when James Scarlett came were the H. MacDougalls, Annie Levic, Ted and Kit Robinson.

I was born in Innisfail in 1898 and have three brothers and one sister: Ralph (deceased), William, Thomas (deceased) and Grace (Mrs. Ray Manuel).

In the early days I remember the town of Innisfail as being where all businessmen and all the people in the surrounding districts were "good friends". There wasn't the competitive feeling in the community at

that time. Some of the early businessmen I recall were the DeLongs, Wests, Pattersons, Fumertons, Stewarts, Geo Walker, Bobby Smith, Andy Lennox, Simpsons and Archers.

I attended school at Little Red Deer. This school district was formed in 1895 and the first school was built in 1896 on the Scarlett farms. The building still stands today. The school was opened April 7th with Miss Margaret Duncan as first teacher. Some of the other teachers were: Miss Edna Stewart, Bertha Baltrick, Fred Garbutt (who went on to found the business colleges in Calgary & Edmonton) A.E. Meyer, James Patullo, H.C. Newland, Mr. Harman, Joseph Welch, Jessie Gilbert and Miss Legg. Some I attended school with were Wilf Edgar, Doug Scott, the Wrights, the Browns, the Sinclairs, the Testers and the Davidsons. I took all the Little Red Deer School offered and then took entrance exams in Innisfail and was off to the Olds Agricultural school for two years. Brother William was one of the first pupils in the first year of operation of the O.A.C.

I recall Mr. Fred Rogers of Innisfail who did most of his breaking of land with his team of oxen. The first dance in the Little Red Deer settlement was held New Years' Eve (and it was 40 below) at the "Spruces" on the Edmonton trail.

Before the coming of the railroad, there was only stagecoach as means of transportation running from Calgary to Edmonton once a week. The fare was \$25. with meals included.

I was engaged in mixed farming and now my son Edwin is the third generation on this land. I remember going through the depression years and I feel it was a privilege to do so because it gave me the appreciation of good things to come later.

I married Ethel Hayes of Bowden in March, 1927. The former Miss Hayes was a school teacher having taught in many points before coming to the Little Red Deer School. We have four children: Alice (Mrs. Geof Hoar), Myrtle (Mrs. Harry Puddifant), Edwin T. and Roy J. Both daughters are teachers. Edwin supervised schools and remarked how wonderful he found the people in the east country — especially the Baumgarts. Roy is employed by Hudson Bay Oils.

I have been affiliated with most of the parades ever held in Innisfail as well as being chairman of the M.S.I. during its operation, a past master of the Orange Lodge, elder of the United Church, charter member of the Innisfail Curling Club and Charter member of the Historical Society of which I was the first chairman of the membership and in 1972-73 President. Like my father before me, I served 25 years as chairman of the Little Red Deer School Board.

My wife and I retired into Innisfail in 1963 the morning of the assassination of John F. Kennedy (Nov. 22).

One of my proudest times was when I was presented with the Centennial Award from the Government of Alberta for recognition of services I was able to provide through my many years in the community. This was the only one given south of Edmonton.



Mr. and Mrs. James Scarlett heading for town.

WILLIAM JAMES SCARLETT

My mother and father were Mr. & Mrs. James Scarlett who came to Little Red Deer district in 1893. I, William James Scarlett, was born April 26, 1897. I attended school at the Little Red Deer school along with Wilf Edgar, Jack Scott, Bill & Issac Wright, Annie Atkinson, Maggie & Dorothy Brown. My favorite teacher was Mr. Welsh. The first year of operation of the Olds' Agricultural School was in 1913 and with me attending that first session were Frank Stevenett, Bob Sinclair, Tommy Sigardson & Freddy Duff.

We had quite a football team in the Little Red Deer District. Some of those involved were Bill Ditcburn, Jack Scarlett, Doug & Jack Scott and Sid Harrison. They were a particularly good team and did well for themselves and the district in winning many a game.



Wm. Scarlett Family. Harold, Mrs. Scarlett, John, Mr. Scarlett, Robert and Marie.

I recall the time we brought in a two hundred pound pig and sold it to Wong for \$2.00. Then, the three of us who brought it in stayed at Wong's for supper at 35c each . . . which didn't leave us much to take home in money.

Father raised and sold many fine horses. They were Clydes. We sold to McArthurs for pulling the funeral wagon in the early days and also sold some horses for draying and fire dept. in Calgary.

It was June 20, 1923 that I married Effie May Scott in Red Deer. We raised three sons and one daughter: John James (a grain buyer) married Evelyn Camidge and they have 10 children; John died Jan. 5, 1968 and is buried at Drumheller; Harold William farms in Little Red Deer. He married Mary Felker and they have three children. Marie a stenographer married George Greig and they have 4 children. They reside in Westlock. Robert Edward a draftsman married Donna Thurston and has 3 children. They live in Calgary.

My wife and I retired into Innisfail in 1951.

FREDERICK SCHAFER by Valentine Schafer

Frederick Schafer was born in Ontario in 1873. He married Hannah Esch from his home district near Elmira in Ontario in February 1898. As a young man in Ontario he worked for local farmers. After getting married, he and his wife operated a country Post Office for several years, but seeing no great future they decided to go west and start farming. He and his wife with their first son William came to the Innisfail district in the spring of 1900. His brother Jacob met them in Innisfail and took them across country by team and wagon to the place that was to be their home — a raw quarter section of land with no buildings whatsoever.

The trip took them from one to two weeks. It was a wearisome journey, yet adventuresome as they had interesting things happen along the way. One day some of the more daring men were on top of the train cars and jumping from one to the other as they rambled along at a much slower speed than they do now. Fear gripped them when they looked up and saw the front of the train enter a tunnel. Some laid down on the top; others, who had time, crawled down the side and hung on for dear life. Fortunately all went well and no one was hurt.

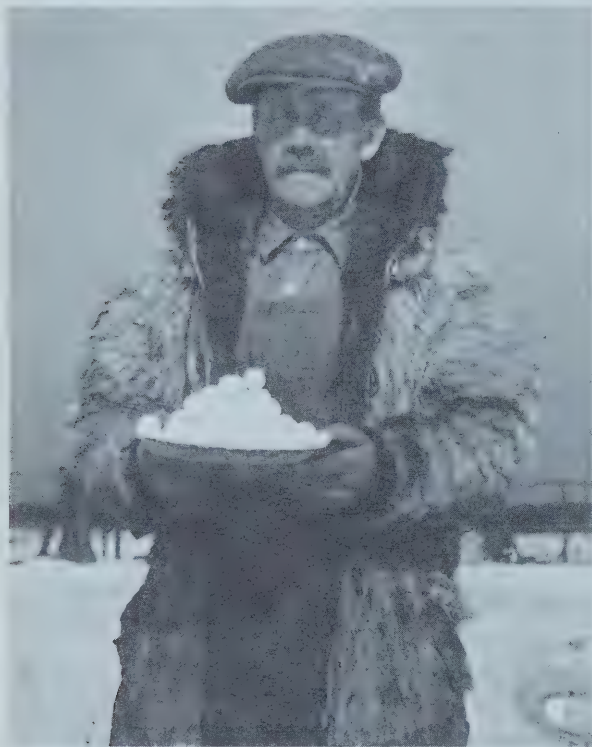
A log shack was built the first year and it had a sod roof. This was home for about five years. When their daughter Louisa was born in May 1902, Dad had to place boards on the slant over the bed to keep Mother and the baby dry.

There were no good roads in those early days — only trails across the country. Many hours were spent going and coming to nearby towns for needed supplies and coal for the long hard and cold winters. On one occasion Dad decided to go to Three Hills for coal as the supply was getting low and the cold weather hung on. A storm was threatening so he hurried along, got the coal loaded and started for home. Night-time came and the tired horses held to the beaten trail which was now blown in with drifting snow. He had some blankets with him, feed for the horses and some lunch for himself. He travelled all night and got very tired and chilled. Sensing he was



The Schafer Family. L. to R.: Willie, Valentine, Louisa, Katie, Clarence, Daniel; seated in front: Mr. F. Schafer, Charles, Mary, Walter, Mrs. Hanna Schafer.

getting sleepy and very cold, he jumped off to walk to keep warm. His legs were numb and would not hold him, so he rolled around for a bit to restore circulation. Soon he was able to get up and hustled along as best he could in the dark to catch up to the team and sleigh again. By daylight he was within seven or eight miles from home but the horses were played out, so he stopped to feed them. While they were eating he got his lunch to eat too. But, alas, it was frozen solid and he had to pick away the icicles that had formed over his mouth from his moustache. By noon he arrived home with the much needed coal; the severe cold lasted for several weeks longer.



June 15, 1923 hailstorm; Mr. Fred Schafer with makings for ice cream.

One of Dad's early ambitions was to be a railroad engineer. This desire was never realized. However, after building a brick veneer house in 1926, he did write exams and got a certificate to operate his self-installed steam heating plant which worked very efficiently and kept the house nice and warm. He also had a blacksmith shop in which a lot of work was done, both for neighbors and himself. He did a lot of electric welding with a big rebuilt generator using D.C. current.

Having lots of help from the family, it was easier to do mixed farming. There were milk cows, range cattle, horses and pigs and chickens, besides the grain crops raised. One of the boys liked fixing clocks and watches and spent many hours in his little shop repairing various timepieces. Another one had his own seed-cleaning plant with which he cleaned thousands of bushels of grain for farmers both near

and far. Considerable seed grain was sold besides livestock, which provided a source of income even though at times prices were very low in comparison to what they are now.

As more settlers moved into this area, the May City School was built around 1904. All of us children attended this school, a few getting through grade 8 and writing the Dept. of Educ. exams which were given at that time. One of my early teachers was a war veteran from Cremona by the name of Victor Reid. A fine teacher he was too. The last teacher I had was Miss Annie Finlay. She taught for several years and was a splendid teacher.

Each week Mother and Dad went to Innisfail with over 100 lbs. of butter which they sold to private customers. One of their customers was H.J.Percy; other early people and places of Innisfail we knew were Hector McFadyen of the A.P. elevator, White's Restaurant; Whitcomb livery barn; and Bill Daines' Blacksmith.

Frederick and Hannah Schafer's children:

William H. — married in 1941 to Hannah Boffey; both deceased; one son Ernest.

Catherine A. — single, living in town of Olds.

Louisa — married to William G. Yeabsley in 1926; Reed Ranch area.

Daniel — married to Marjorie Vincett in 1935; in Calgary; Doreen, Muriel, Gary.

Clarence M. — married to Esther Olson in 1947; Geo. Leonard; both deceased and buried at Bergen, Alta.

Valentine J. — married to Ella Stauffer in 1933; living in May City district; Kenneth, Gordon, Marion, Marilyn, Mervyn, Howard.

Mary — married to Dilman Lachman in 1938; living in May City district; Clarence, Vera, Carol, Arnold, Sam, Pearl, Ruby, Gladys.

Samuel — deceased when 11 months old.

Charles — married Elsie Siewert in 1940. She passed away in 1970; he remarried in 1972 and is living in Innisfail; son Novan.

Walter I. — single; deceased in 1971.

Mother passed away in Jan. 1945; Dad in Sept. 1957; William in Mar. 1967; Walter in June 1971; all are buried in the Mayton - Maycity cemetery.

VALENTINE SCHAFER by Maud E. Rogers

Valentine Schafer was born in 1858; his wife Rebecca in 1855; they were married in 1880 and farmed near Elora, Ontario. The family came to Innisfail in May, 1901 to continue farming; Valentine



Valentine Schafer



Valentine Schafer making his rounds.

and his oldest son, Melvin, took out homesteads in the Mayton district. They farmed, grew grain, vegetables, raised cattle, hogs and chickens and for extra income, they delivered milk daily to Innisfail. Three of their children, John, Harry and Mary, attended school at Innisfail. Valentine Schafer and family lived on the Poplar Grove farm south of Innisfail on the old Calgary trail. The house was a stage stopping place for many years. As well as farming, the Schafers carried on a grain chopping business in the winter and made cement building blocks in the summer which were later sold to the Watt Brothers. In 1912, the Schafers retired and moved to Edmonton.

From a 1906 paper: V. Schafer, the old reliable Milk man has reduced the price of milk to 3c per qt. He will also deliver cream to his customers for 15c qt. Said competition is the life of trade.

THE JACOB SCHAEFER FAMILY by W.C. Schaefer

The Jacob Schaefer family arrived in Innisfail in the spring of 1894 from Bruce County, Ontario.

The beckoning prospect of a "home" in this wonderful part of the North-West as it was known at that time, was a great and tempting adventure for a young family, tempered as it was, with many hardships and some disappointments. But, the very deep and sincere friendships of the early settlers made the difficulties much in common in their efforts overcame many obstacles that at first seemed almost impossible. The result was a blending of many Pioneers, freely given ability and effort, woven into a successful community that we can all enjoy and be part of. This was combined with the kindly co-operation of the Pioneers in the surrounding towns and villages and especially Innisfail, which served as our main contact with the outside world. The merchants stores were often our main trading centers. The merchants often extended credit to add to the Santa Claus Pack and a Happy Christmas for the families. This kindly spirit of good will and co-operation went to the many pioneers and their families. Many people have contributed a great deal to the development of a "Great Home Town", "County", "Province" and "Canada". This has been a wonderful accomplishment in any Pioneers' language.

As a member of our family, I am truly happy to be associated with this development and with the recording of some of the local history.

My father and mother and family were among the band of early pioneer settlers, who with their neighbors — the Rosenbargo family, the Nisbet family, the Cummins family, the Hamilton Brothers (Tom and Matt), the Mather Brothers (Duncan and Angus), the Tolley Brothers (Fred and Charlie), the Cooke family, the Pendergast family, the Jacobs family, Mr. Hansel, the Krause family, the Smith family and many more — who helped to open this district south east of Innisfail in the 1890's and early 1900's, known as the Spruce Coulee and Horse Shoe Lake Districts.

These pioneers faced many hardships — no doctor, no hospital, no school, no roads no bridges, no good buildings and no fences.

My father had filed on the homestead the year before he moved out and had Charlie Tolley break ten acres. This ten acres are still producing good crops today. The 1890's were what was known as the dry years. It was so dry some of the top soil burned. In August, 1899, the weather picture changed to the other extreme — too much rain, snow and mud.

One of the greatest fears of the homesteader was fire, especially prairie fire in the fall of the year when the grass was dead and dry. It could burn up the winter supply of hay and buildings etc. Everyone had to learn the art of fighting fire — with fire. What was called "back-firing" at night was a ghastly and terrible sight and experience.

My father and his brother-in-law, August Kremer, shipped a railway car of settlers' effects from Ontario to Innisfail. My mother and four daughters were accompanied by her sister-in-law, Mrs. August Kremer and family. They travelled by Colonist coach from Ontario to Innisfail. It took ten days and was a very tiring trip. All were happy to be reunited in Innisfail. The car included many items that are still in the family. They also brought a team of good horses and a wagon.

After moving to the homestead, N.E. 6-34-27-4, and building some buildings, father got a job with his team and wagon building a bridge across the Red Deer River at Red Deer and a bridge across the Blindman River. They had to swim their horses and equipment across the river.

There wasn't much money in circulation at this time and one time he traded a load of wood to a shoe repair man (Williams, a colored man in Innisfail), who also repaired watches, etc, for a main spring for his watch.

Before the gum rubbers it was leather shoes and moccasins. They would wrap gunny sacks around the backs of the shoes in winter to keep warm. After supper we would sometimes blow out the coal-oil light to save coal oil and set around an open fire grate in the stove and watch the fire burn the wood. We would enjoy listening to my parents tell some of our favorite bedtime stories. There were also some hair-raisers, such as the 1902 story of the Wyoming bandit, Ernest Cashel, who had passed through the Innisfail area and killed a man by the name of Rufus Belt in his cabin on the Red Deer River (about thirty-five miles east of Innisfail). The mounties also found a mare



L. to R.: Clara, Mrs. Schaefer, William, Elizabeth, Mr. J. Schaefer; Emma and Alice seated on lawn.

Cashel had stolen and had been riding. They found her carcass on the road just to the south of Innisfail. There are a great many interesting stories associated with Innisfail and area.

My father, Jacob Schaefer was born in Bruce County, Ontario on January 12, 1865. He married my Mother, Sophia Kremer, October 5, 1884 in Kitchener, Ontario. They had seven children:

Clara, (Mrs. J. Price) of Edmonton, deceased. They had a family of four sons.

Alice (Mrs. H. Traub) of Edmonton, deceased. She had one daughter who is deceased.

Elizabeth (Mrs. R.E. Forsyth) of Atlanta, Ga, U.S.A.. They have four children.

Emma, (Mrs. Ray Craddick) of Edmonton. They have four sons.

Clarence — deceased.

William C. the only son left lives on the farm next to the homestead in the Horse Shoe Lake district. He married Lillian Lewis on November 5, 1919. We have five children: Melba, a teacher is Mrs. O.C. Berild of Olds, Alberta. She has two children Barbara and Clifford. Second daughter, Audrey, a teacher is Mrs. George Braithwaite of Red Deer. They have three children, Robert, Janice and Donald. Richard resides at R.R. No. 2, Innisfail and has two children Allan and Loree. Robert resides at R.R. No. 2, Innisfail and has three children, Brian, Brent and Amy. Jack resides in Edmonton where he is a baker for "Sonny Boy". They have two children Patricia and Deborah Anne.

Henry, and Clarence — both deceased.

Father Jacob Schaefer and Mother, Sophia, both passed away in 1940.

I recall a wagon box that we bought from Archer and Simpson and it had their names painted on the box. We had this for many years. George E. Bryan was the station agent we all knew well. Ed and Jennie Dodd were at the Post office.

I, William C. Schaefer, attended school at Horse Shoe Lake, and May City. Three of my sisters attended school in Innisfail. The family moved to Edmonton for a short time and I attended school there getting my secondary education at the Alberta College. I later went on staff at the Standard Bank of Canada at Edmonton.

We returned to the same homestead in 1914. I decided to farm and had a fifteen year plan — At the end of the fifteen years, I didn't recognize the plan!

I have served on the Horse Shoe Lake School Board, been secretary of the Innisfail-Bowden Rural Electrification and have been involved in Church organizations. I have been a registered seed grower for some years and had the honour of winning the World Championship in Registered seed at the Royal Winter Fair in 1965. My wife and I are now semi-retired, our sons Richard and Robert are making the third generation to farm the same land — Richard being on the homestead land.

My sister, Clara, remembers a Miss Baker she had had as a teacher in Innisfail, who went to Cochrane for the summer holidays to keep house for her brother. There was so much rain that year that the sod house became saturated and collapsed killing both of them. It was a great shock to all the students at the time. I remember too the first telephones coming in and at that time the party-lines did so much to alleviate loneliness.

THE PAUL SCHAEFER STORY by Helen Hargreaves

Paul Schaefer, my father, was born in Germany on Nov. 3, 1888. He came from Germany to the Mayton district in 1911. He married the former Lena Haderer Nov. 22, 1911 in Olds. Lena had come with her parents from Iowa in March, 1902. Dad had been a salesman selling dry goods in Germany prior to coming to Mayton where he operated a store.

In 1922 Dad bought the Knee Hill Valley Store from Wilton Bros. This included the Post office. He took over the mail route from Mr. Jardine in 1923. He hauled mail three times a week from Innisfail to Knee Hill Valley and two times a week from Innisfail to Hill End and once a week from Innisfail to Horse Shoe Lake. The Knee Hill Store and Post office burnt down in 1931 and the Schaefers' built a new one again the same year.

The Paul Schaefer family were: Fred, b. 1913, who married Olive Leach in 1938. They have 3 children: Gertude Schaefer, b. 1917, who married Tom Fleming. They reside in Winnipeg and she has one child: Helen, b. 1921 who married Russell Hargreaves in 1939. They have 4 children (See Hargreaves Story).



Mr. and Mrs. Paul Schaefer and Family: Fred, Gertie and Helen.

Paul was a trustee on the Pleasant Valley School Board for a number of years. He joined the Masonic Lodge in Innisfail in 1932. Lena joined the O.E.S. in Olds in 1908 and affiliated in the Innisfail Chapter where she was Worthy Matron in 1934.

When the post office burned down a group from the area were putting on a play at Mayton. Mr. and Mrs. Schaefer were there too. Someone reported there was a fire and by the time they got back, there was nothing left. The children were away at the time. Paul Schaefer passed away April 8, 1936. and is buried in Innisfail. Lena Schaefer ran the store and Post Office until she sold out in 1941 to Offerhaus and went to Calgary. She remarried in 1943.

SCHROEDER STORY by Dora Carr

Julius Schroeder, my uncle, came from Germany to Nebraska U.S.A. where he farmed until 1904. It was then that he and his wife and four sons (Julius, George, John and William) decided to come West. He owned and operated the Royal Hotel in Innisfail.

William Schroeder was born in Germany in 1876. Serene Karde was born January 21 1870 in Germany. Both immigrated when in their "teens". In later years they married and farmed in Nebraska. Five children were born to them. One son and a daughter died. The other three children — Lena, Dora and Clara came to Innisfail with their parents in 1905. It was a tiring train ride in those days. We lived in the hotel and while there, some of us became very ill with diphtheria. William and Julius died with it and are buried in the Innisfail cemetery.

Julius Schroeder had purchased two farms in the Grahamston district four miles southeast of Innisfail. The log house on his farm was our home until our new three bedroom house was built. After this we had the big red barn built. Our house was built on the corner of the farm and became a real land mark for all. While in our new home in the early years our poor little Mother was again very ill, this time with dropsy. The doctors had given her up, when a quack came along and cured her with herbs. Needless to say, we all thanked God for sparing our little Mamma.

Grahamston was our school and church. Maggie Burns was our teacher. In those days we had no roads and the weather was extremely cold. In fact fifty and sixty below with the odd blizzard was not uncommon. We seldom missed attending school as our parents were determined we should attend. We had a piano and Clara and I had lessons and Lena played the violin.

We had many friendly neighbors — the John Carrs, George Oxtoby, Mortons, Burns, Bothamleys, Lawsens, Camerons, Mrs. McBeth and the Wades. Mr. Wade was killed by a bull while leading him out to water.

Our German friends were the Hempkins and Barkemeyers. Mr. Hempkin was killed in a wood sawing accident. Lena was there as a wee girl and saw pieces of his body scattered and picked up. She was so frightened, she couldn't talk for a few days.

There was lots of wood sawing done as well as soap making and butchering. Threshing time was a chore for women as well as men. They used the old steam engine and many men had to be fed. We owned a smoke house as well as an ice house and this helped so much in making it easier to accommodate the threshing crews. I always liked to help my mother in making head cheese, sausage etc. These jobs to me were never a chore. We were rosy cheeked, healthy girls and I have no recollection of a doctor being called at any time for us. Mother insisted that we take a teaspoon of Rawleys liniment at least once a week.

When we were very young we used to exchange visits with neighbors. The whole family was included. Later, the younger generation stayed at home and usually met at our place and we would dance in the barn loft as Lena could now play the violin for the old time dances. Clarence Carr played the same instrument.

To obtain groceries we delivered many "thirty dozen" crates of eggs to G.W. West's store. We also sold many ten gallon cans of cream and for cash we had cattle and hogs.



Mr. and Mrs. Schroeder on their farm in 1914.

I remember when Dad presented us with a top buggy and cutter — now making it fun to go to town. We rode a lot, as most did, and brought in the milk cows. Clara assisted the men in driving cattle to market. We used to hitch our ponies to the buggy and cutter. If there ever was a runaway team — they were the ones. Many a time we bolted down the street. We all helped break the colts and even hitched them to a plough.

On May 18, 1918, Lena married Earl Lewis. He was the eldest son of a pioneer family in the Mayton district. Their son William was born in our house with Dr. Gilray in attendance. Later another son and daughter were born. They moved to Portland and there had another son.

My Dad and Mother now owned a section of land and in 1925 I married Clarence Carr in Vancouver, Washington. My parents retired to Portland and Clara went with them. Clara married Dennis Metz in 1932. Two sons were born to Clara and the youngest was killed in the Korean War. Dennis was in World War I and in the secret service.

Mr. Schroeder died September 30, 1952. Mrs. Schroeder passed away in 1949 (on Christmas Day).

Having lost a grandson (Lena's youngest) and our daughter Jacqueline who passed away at Easter in the same year as Mother — it made it a very trying time for me.

Clarence and I retired to Innisfail having rented and farmed the old home place for forty years.

WILLIAM SCHWERDFEGER FAMILY by Harvey Carter

William Harvey Schwerdfeger was born in 1867 and died in 1917. His wife, Ellen Schwerdfeger was born in 1863 and died in 1952.

They came from Ontario in 1901 to Innisfail and farmed in the Horse Shoe Lake district. In 1905 they moved into Innisfail where he became the town policeman for a number of years. They also operated a bake shop and after the death of her husband, Mrs. Schwerdfeger and the girls ran the shop. She later retired from business and lived with her daughters.



Schwerdfeger Family: Norman, Clara, Sadie, Myrtle, Muriel, Arlie, Mr. and Mrs., Jennie.

They had eight children: Clara who married Watt Hewitt (dec): Myrtle who married Fred Smith (dec) (See Smith Story): Cecil (dec): Sadie who married Bert Carter (see Carter story): Norman who married Alice Brown and resides in Vancouver: Arli who married Jessie Brown and resides in Vancouver: Muriel who married Noah Bauman. She resides in Calgary and Jean who married Bill Dodd resides in Calgary.

GEORGE WILLIAM SCOTT AND HELEN CHRISTENA (McALLISTER) SCOTT by Laura R. Scott

Mr. and Mrs. Scott met at the Agricultural College, Guelph. Mr. Scott was born in 1875 and died in 1964. Mrs. Scott was born in 1875 and died in 1971. They are buried in the Evergreen Memorial Gardens, Edmonton.

Mr. Scott came west from Aylmer, Ontario in 1901. He spent the winter working in the Roundhouse at Maple Creek, Sask. He arrived in Innisfail in 1902 as a Dominion Gov't Civil Servant to be the manager of the creamery. He stayed at the Alberta Hotel until his wife came west from Bolton, Ontario in the spring of 1904. In 1906 Mr. Scott was transferred to the Dairy Office and to field work in 1909. This entailed travel throughout the province to hold

meetings, make inspections and judge at fairs. Early trips were made with a team of horses. One memorable trip was with the Mixed Farming Special Train that went from Lethbridge to the Peace River Country in 1916. The purpose was to give advice, lectures and demonstrations as well as do some organization of groups of farmers and their wives. Water for the stock on the train cost twenty-five cents a barrel at Grande Prairie. Among Mr. Scott's other duties, were periods of instruction at the Vermilion School of Agriculture 1913-21 and the University of Alberta as well as research and later inspection of cheese factories. Mr. Scott was a 32' Mason. He was presented with his fiftieth year jewel in 1962. In Edmonton he held offices in the Horticultural Society and Strathcona Presbyterian Church. Following his death his diaries and Dairy pictures were placed in the archives of the Glenbow Foundation, Calgary.

For eighteen years Mr. Scott was away from Innisfail except for weekends and National holidays. Mrs. Scott kept the home fire burning. Her fine vegetable gardens were centred by a flower bed and rows of lettuce bordered paths. She had a knack with sewing. She also found time to work in the community. Mrs. Scott was active on the board of managers, in the Ladies' Aid and in the missionary Society of St. Andrews' Presbyterian Church in Innisfail. She was a charter member of the Eastern Star and in 1916, the first president of the Innisfail Women's Institute. During the First World War, she belonged to the I.O.D.E.

In 1928 the Scott family moved to Edmonton.

The children of the Scotts' were Laura, Jean, Violet, Allister, Rachel, George and Mitchell. The first five members were born at home with a doctor present. Mrs. Benton or Mrs. Barwis cared for mother and baby. The Innisfail Hospital on Main Street welcomed George and Mitchell.

Mrs. Scott's two brothers, Edgar and Robert McAllister, came out about 1910 to make their home with the Scotts. Both belonged to the I.O.O.F. They joined the 56th Battalion and went to France as reinforcement for the 49th. Robert was killed and Edgar wounded at the battle of Ypres. Miss Jean McAllister, a sister, came west in 1914 to make her home with the Scotts. She worked in the telephone office until she married David John Mitchell of Grande Valley, Ontario in 1928 and returned to Ontario.

During the school term of 1921-22, Laura and Jean attended the first grade XII held in Innisfail. The girls went on to attend the Calgary Normal School. In 1927 Jean married Rev. Albert Victor Bentum of Ontario. Jean was cremated at White Rock, B.C. in 1971. Laura and Violet are living in the family home in Edmonton.

Laura's first school was the Rockwood School beyond Sundre. The school year was from June to Christmas. The term ended with a week of 60' below weather. She came back to Olds with Mr. Hogg, the mailman by team and to Innisfail by train. Violet stayed with three different families while she taught near Smith. The families received credit of \$20. per month on their taxes.

Allister married Barbara Hughes who came from Scotland. Their family is Robert Gray and Mitchell McAllister. Allisters' granddaughter, Jennifer Michelle is the sixth generation to live in Canada on great grandma Helen Scott's side of the family.

Rachel married Clifford W. Young of Edmonton. Their family is David John and Janet Elizabeth. Rachel received the Centennial Medal for her work in the Mental Health Field.

During the war, George put in a tour of duty with the R.C.A.F. on the west coast and a second one air-lifting native soldiers and food, mainly rice, from India to Burma, attached to the Chinthe Squadron 435. George married Marjorie Soyers of Lethbridge and their family is Laura Mae and George Richard.

Mitchell's air force duty was spent over Europe flying with the famous Moose Squadron of Lancaster bombers. He was awarded the D.F.C. in 1944. Following his M.A. degree in Social Service he married Margaret Bremner of Parry Sound, Ontario. They now live in St. Catharines, Ontario.

The Innisfail Days were happy ones for the George W. Scott family. The home contained a good library, also used by some of the neighbors. There was plenty of room to play games. Children's house parties were fun. Mud Lake and Dodd's Lake provided places for swimming. Moore's slough was the skating rink. Many recesses and after school hours were spent riding sleighs or toboggans down the hill behind the old brick school. A variety of interesting flowers were found in the fields and woods. Serial movies were shown Saturday afternoons in the old Opera House. The family's first radio was built by Mr. Ben Schnitka, an Innisfail merchant about 1924. A good school and hospital, fine neighbors and a church filled their other needs.

HENRY JAMES SCOTT by Mrs. Alice Brekke

My father, Henry James Scott, was born May 24th, 1865 in Priceville, Ontario and grew up on a farm in that area. He came West in the spring of 1886 and worked for an older acquaintance, Locke MacKinnon, who was ranching near Calgary. His desire for independence and adventure prompted him to get some land of his own near the then much talked about railway soon to be constructed between Calgary and Edmonton. In the spring of 1889 he set out with a team of horses and a wagon loaded with the most necessary items required to start farming. He headed north, following the old wagon trail used by the men hauling freight between Calgary and Edmonton. He arrived at Innisfail May 18, 1889 where his wandering terminated.

He took up a homestead six miles west of Innisfail, now known as the Little Red Deer district. After building his log house and a couple of sheds he really felt independent. He then travelled back to Calgary to collect the rest of his pay from Mr. McKinnon. This consisted of a few head of livestock, which my father had provided with winter food, by cutting hay on open land. He brought this stock back to his farm and settled into the new community.



L. to R.: Back row: Doug, Jack, Archie; front row: Alice, Mrs. H. J. Scott, Harry, H. J. Scott.

A few of the neighbors at this time were: Jim and John Brown, Dave Sinclair, John Duncan, George Atkinson, Jim Scarlett, and Nat Wright. The descendants of most of these mentioned are still in Innisfail and district.

With the opening of the C & E railway, settlers started to arrive in great numbers. One of these newcomers was: Waterhouse who arrived from England. He settled near the Scott homestead. In September, 1893 a friend of that family from the Isle of Man came to visit the Waterhouses. She was Alice Eleanor Dobson, born August 15, 1870 in Douglas, Isle of Man. This particular young lady changed the routine life of young Henry Scott. On August 15th, 1894 Henry Scott and Alice Dobson were married in Innisfail with Rev. Spear performing the ceremony.

It didn't take too long for the young bride (my Mother) to change the bachelors' shack into a comfortable log cabin home and raise Henry's standard of living. They were happy and content just being free and independent.

Mr. G.W. West was by this time a well established storekeeper in Innisfail. He was fairly well stocked with all the essentials and even the odd luxury for those who could afford or trade for it.

Giving and receiving help among neighbors was the order of the day and a handshake on a deal was as valid as a witnessed signature is today. This mutual trust and friendship among the settlers compensated a great deal for any discomforts that they suffered. When providence, good luck and fortune smiled upon them, with tears of joy, they humbled themselves before God, as individuals and as a people.

Henry and Alice settled into homestead life and on the 27th day of June 1895 their first son, Jack, was born. This great event was followed by the arrivals of Doug (Douglas) on April 5, 1898 and Archie (Archibald) on February 22, 1902.

My father, having foresight and ambition acquired more land and a fair sized herd of milk cows. The cream was taken to Innisfail and shipped to Calgary every day. This provided cash money and in 1903

with his growing family threatening to burst the seams of the log cabin, he built a new house on the homestead. This house is now the residence of Henry's grandson, Jack Scott.

On March 15, 1905, the twins, Alice and Harry were born (that's me first).

Progress never stands still and neither did my father. When Henry Ford produced the model T. Ford, my father was the proud owner of the first car in the district purchased from Dick Kremer. Horses and all farm animals were scared of a car in those days. I remember coming home from town one day when we caught up with a neighbor and his team and wagon. He was sitting on the spring seat on top of the wagon box. My father sounded the horn for him to move over. The horses got frightened and bolted. The neighbor fell over backwards into the wagon box and were off in a cloud of dust.

Father held the respect of the people in Innisfail and district and to us it was a great loss when he passed away in 1920, still a reasonably young man.

In the late spring of 1923, my oldest brother Jack, married Myrtle, the oldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Champ of Innisfail. Jack met his death on a threshing outfit that fall and never saw their daughter Betty. She grew up to be a fine young woman and is now Mrs. Frank Soderberg. She has four children.

On May 20, 1930, my brother, Archie, was killed in a motorcycle accident.

My brothers, Harry and Doug, both got married in 1933 and the Scott farm was divided between them. Doug got the home place and Harry built next to it. Harry married Grace Cousins of Innisfail. They have four children: Shirley (Mrs. Paul Rabel, who have four sons) Eleanor (Mrs. Berndt Knudson who has two children. Ora and Jim are both single.

Doug's wife was the former Louise Seaton of Nottingham, England. She had found her way to Canada and to Innisfail. They have two children: Jack and Lorraine (Mrs. Harry Gow). Lorraine has one son. After his fathers retirement in 1971 to Innisfail, Jack married Dorothy Jean Silver. They have one daughter. Jack took over the farm and lives on the quarter that was the original homestead. The whole Scott farm is still in the family.

In 1935, I married Howard Brekke, a native of Bergen, Norway. We made our home in Ponoka. We have three children: Allister, married to Norma Lindstead of Camrose; they have two sons. David married Irene Butcher and they have two daughters. Marlene married Robert Rowley and they have one daughter.

When Doug got married, Mother and I moved to Innisfail where she had a house built and enjoyed her retirement. Mother was Presbyterian and attended services in the Little Red Deer school house in the early days and later in Innisfail until her passing in 1953. While on the farm, Mother was a charter and active member of the Dorcas Society. She was also a member of the I.O.D.E. in Innisfail.

Sports was somewhat limited in the district. However, I recall baseball being played down in our



H. J. Scott's Model T with Mrs. Scott, Alice, Harry, Douglas and Jack driving.

pasture with Wilf Edgar umpiring. When the ice was favorable we would have skating parties. Social events such as dances, plays and box socials were held in the school house.

My brother, Harry, was quite a clown at some of those affairs. He was active in sports and enjoyed curling plus the socializing that went with the game. He had many friends in the Innisfail area and many stories could be told about his escapades. Harry had a heart attack and passed away in January, 1963. His wife, Grace, still runs the farm with the help of Jim and Ora. They also have two producing oilwells on one of the quarter sections.

Doug and Louise are thoroughly enjoying their retirement in Innisfail. They are both active in some of the organizations in town. Doug is quite a talker and enjoys conversing with old friends and in making new ones.

Howard and I still have a soft spot in our hearts for Innisfail. I am always anxious to know what goes on and pleased when asked to take part in any functions in my old home town.

J.L. SCOTT FAMILY by George N. Scott and Mrs. Pauline Jessup

James L. Scott came to Innisfail in 1906, from Lincoln, Nebraska, U.S.A. where he was born in 1884. He came to the area to farm when his Father, Mother, six sisters, and four brothers immigrated. Jim Scott and his two younger brothers Ernest and Bert came west in a box car with their farm machinery, livestock and household effects. Since railroad regulations stipulated that only two persons were allowed to travel with their possessions in the box car, one of the younger men had to keep out of sight under an overturned wagon box during any stops along the way.

Mr. and Mrs. H.H. Scott, the five girls, Mamie, Josie, Ethel, Lucille and Betty; and two boys, Tom and Ted followed by passenger coach. The Scott family stayed in Innisfail for about a month, then moved to rented land in the Calder district, where Archers had previously lived, east of what is now the Calder Community Center. Mr. Scott was a capable carpenter and in 1906 built a two story addition to the Hibbert house, which still remains in the same location, now part of Scott Farms. The family only lived at Calder for one year and in 1908 moved to a homestead east of Huxley, at Perbeck, on the banks of the Red Deer River. This was a disastrous move because hail and drought plagued them. During this

time the older boys began to work away from home at railroad building, bridge building and farm work. In the winter of 1906-07, lumber for a house and all food and clothing supplies were hauled from Innisfail to Purbeck by horse and wagon. Since most of the time it was too cold to ride on the wagon, most of the trip was made on foot, a trip of some forty or fifty miles.

In 1917, Mr. and Mrs. Scott Sr., moved back to Innisfail, and after that the family scattered. Ernest and Bert opened a livery stable at Trochu, which later became one of the first garages there. It was the automobile business which eventually took these two to Washington and Oregon, where they prospered.

Tom married and settled at Hanna, Alberta. Ted also married, but eventually lived in New Mexico. All the girls settled in Western Canada or the Western United States. Mr. Scott, who was nicknamed "Uncle Sam", because of his American origin, stately bearing and chin whiskers, moved to the U.S., where he and Mrs. Scott lived with their sons until their deaths.

During the Scotts' stay in the Huxley area, the story was told of a man and his sons who were travelling with a wagon and a team of oxen, and were caught in a sudden blizzard. Coming to a home (a large shack), they were given shelter. The oxen too were invited into the shack, to save them from drifting along with the storm. All went well until one of the animals got his tail on the hot pot-bellied stove, which caused the loss of one wall of the building.

There were many stories about travel in the early days, the ones we heard about were concerning roads east of Innisfail. In the spring when the snow was melting, the only way to travel was along the ridges and highland, no one dared venture into the low areas for fear of ending axle-deep in mud. There were two men in the district who were incurable horse-traders; the story goes that someone came to a chuck-hole and down at the bottom were Nels Stringer and Mr. Huggens with their teams and wagons "horse-trading".

Most of the food was home grown and if gardens failed, life was hard. In the early '30's, our family, like many others, subsisted on food from the farm. Father took wheat to Trochu to be milled into flour. We had milk, butter, bacon (home cured) and eggs. Our parents joked about the "varied" menu. "Bacon and Eggs for lunch, then Eggs and Bacon for supper". In the summer came the time for berry picking and gardening. The garden however, was poor as the rain was scarce in those summers. Because of the difficulty of keeping fresh meat in the summer, "beef rings" were organized, where several families went together and butchered one animal and shared it. This meat had to be taken care of, and canned or cured as the case may be. Mother often talked of a barrel of salt pork or her homemade corned beef or head cheese. A crock or two of Saurkraut helped vary the otherwise tiresome winter diet. It always seemed like less work to turn the handle on the ice-cream maker than on the butter churn. At any time in these early days a

package of dried fruit, apples or prunes or a tin of tomatoes was a real luxury. I don't know who told the story more often, Mother or Dad, about the time the barrel churn opened halfway through churning and spread the oily half-churned butter all over the kitchen floor. Grandpa Marsh, who was living with them at the time very discreetly went outside, where he met Dad in the yard. All he said was "Jim, if I were you, I wouldn't go in for a while".

Five of the Scott children were born on the Marsh farm west of the Knee Hill Valley Post Office. Helen started school at the Pleasant Valley School. When the move was made to their new farm east of the Divide Hill, two granaries were pulled together. With her knack for homemaking, Mother made it most comfortable. Most of the children's clothes were made from adults old clothes and some families who raised sheep, carded, spun and knitted scarves, mitts, socks and other articles. Nearly every woman carded wool and made quilts. A high light of the long winters were quilting bees, where the hostess provided the refreshments and at the end of the day her quilt was finished.

On March 24, 1909, Margaret Mabel Marsh and James L. Scott were married at St. Marks Church, Innisfail. Margaret (May) Marsh was born in Wigan, Lancashire, England and came to Canada in 1901 via Minnesota with her widower father, George Marsh, and her two sisters, Helen (Marsh) Arrowsmith and Cecilia Marsh (Mrs. W. Bilton). George Marsh bought land in Knee Hill Valley and homesteaded there.

There were seven children born to Jim and May Scott: Helen, who married James Stawart of Homeglen, Alberta; Ralph, who died in infancy; Pauline, married to C.G. (Jess) Jessup, living in Penhold; Gilbert, married to Lee Jensen; Philip (Killed in action in Italy, 1943) married to Mickie Clark of Lincoln, England (now Mrs. J.C. Fahrner of Calgary); Ruth, who died in 1957, married to Colin Corkum; and George, married to Evie Trentham.

With the help of his growing family, Dad cleared three quarters of land. Then came the job of educating the children, which was a foregone conclusion. The three girls received teaching, nursing



L. to R.: Pauline, Mrs. Scott holding Philip and Gilbert, Helen, Mr. Scott holding Ruth; George (inset).

and secretarial training, the war interrupted both Gilbert's and Philip's education, while George took a two year Agricultural Course at the Olds Agricultural College, after the end of the war.

Gilbert L. Scott served in the R.C.A.F. in Europe and received the D.F.C.. Philip M. Scott served in the Calgary Tank Corps and was killed in action in Dec. 1943. Pauline C. (Jessup) Scott served as a Nursing Sister in the R.C.A.F.

When we had a car to get around, picnics were much enjoyed, especially at Crystal Pool, which was formed by an artesian well. Lantern slides were a treat and School Christmas Concerts were always a big event in our lives.

All the Scott children attended Calder School and some of them had to go into Innisfail for High School. Many of the families rode horses or walked during the summer and used sleighs in the winter getting to school.

Close neighbors of Mr. and Mrs. Scott that arrived in the early 1900's from Spain were the Jensens. They had been in the Import-Export business. Two brothers arrived first to establish themselves with land and home. Arriving afterwards was the wife of one, two small boys and the wife's mother and brother and two French maids. Mother and Mrs. Jensen formed a life-long friendship.

The courage and optimism of our parents is what we marvel at; when we asked how they adjusted to the harsh pioneer life, especially since they had received a "gentle" upbringing, the answer was "We were young and we thought it was fun".

George Scott has recently served on the Innisfail & District School Association; was on the board of the Innisfail Co-op when the shopping center was newly built; and active in St. Mark's Church.

Gilbert Scott is a member of the Masons, the Innisfail Rotary Club and a member of the Penhold Officers Mess, and active in St. Marks Church.

James L. Scott died August 2, 1963. and interred at Divide Cemetery.

Margaret H. Scott died July 18, 1964 and is interred at Knee Hill Valley.

JOHN M. SCOTT by Effie Scarlett

My father John M. Scott was born in Lindsay, Ontario in 1872. He came by train to Innisfail with his wife Elizabeth, daughters Effie, and Jessie, and son Herb. He had been in the lumber woods in Ontario and came here to take up a homestead in the Ridgewood area. Mr. Schickler had come here the year before from Ontario. John Scott married Elizabeth Schickler in 1895 in Lindsay, Ontario. It was in 1900 they arrived at the station in Innisfail.

The Scotts would have to drive a team of horses to Innisfail to get their groceries and supplies and one time John Scott walked to Innisfail and carried home on his back a 100 lb. sack of flour. Another time Mrs. Scott did the same thing coming from Penhold to their home in Ridgewood.

John Scott was on the river drive at Sundre to the Red Deer River. He worked with Mr. Jim Sucee. It was Jack Scott and Jim Sucee that quarried all the



Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Scott

rock out of the Red Deer river and Hugh Ross hauled it in to build the Archer & Simpson (now Innisfail Foods,) store.

Children born to Mr. & Mrs. J.M. Scott were: Effie (Mrs. William James Scarlett) They reside in Innisfail. They had 4 children. Jessie (Mrs. Elmer Conn), They had 3 children and she lives in the Big Bend district. Herbert married Molly Yarbrough. They had 4 children. He passed away in 1972. Harriett (Mrs. Jack Hill) They had 2 children and reside in Winnipeg, Man. Florence (Mrs. Len Bryenton. They have 2 children and reside in Edmonton. Percy married Elsie Henderson and they have 3 children and live in Ridgewood district. Phillip married Viv Johnson. They have 3 children and live in Calgary. Gertrude (Mrs. Charlie Abraham). They have 3 children and reside in the Aberdeen district. Celia (Mrs. Elwood Davis). They have 2 children and live in Innisfail. Louis married Kay McDonald and he died in 1972. They have 2 children.

Some of the early neighbors of the Scotts' were Dan MacGrandle, Tom, Angus & Johnny Martin, George Duncan and the Bournes.

The children attended the Ridgewood school, Miss Parcels of Penhold was the first teacher.

John Scott passed away Dec. 23, 1960. Elizabeth Scott passed away Aug. 13, 1941. Both are interred in the Innisfail Cemetery.

WILLIAM V. SCOTT FAMILY by Roy Scott

My father, William Scott, was born in Iowa in January, 1860. He was a bridge builder and rancher in the States. previous to coming to Canada from Gordon, Nebraska. He arrived in Innisfail in June, 1901. He brought with him a box car of settlers' effects including nine head of horses. His brother, Jim and a hired man Earl Woodhouse came with the horses and the William Scott family came by train.

It was getting hard to buy land in Nebraska and the thought of cheap homestead land where there was plenty of grass for the range cattle brought the Scott family here. Sandbornes and Neil Cameron and the Donners were already here. They had been neighbors of ours in Gordon, Nebraska.

My mother was the former Geneva Gay and my parents were married in 1892 at Gordon, Nebraska. Mother hated the Indians because she had seen them burn her neighbors as a small child. She was a very good shot, so when any Indians came near we would grab the gun.

We first rented a place (a quarter section) just north of Mud Lake belonging to Old Man Stiles, who ran a store and Post Office in Poplar Grove. The first neighbors here were Crocksford, Stigings, Peg-Legg Lowe, E. Dodd and Hugh Ross.

The bridge over the Red Deer River was finished in 1902. Neil Cameron, Bob and Ernie Donner worked on the bridge. The first fall we were here there was only the cement piers on the bridge.

I remember "Iron-Leg" Lowe, he was an American and he and the Stigings would be going for logs. Iron Leg made twice the trips a day that Stiging did and claimed the reason was that his iron leg never got tired. There were many who came from the States to get away from the law. It was said that Iron Legs' wife had pushed her first husband in a well. I do know that the U.S. Authorities came and took her back to the States.

In March, 1902 the William Scott family moved to Markerville. We had to cross Red Deer River on the ice to a homestead, the northwest of 2-37-W5. The bridge wasn't completed this early in the year. Our new neighbors were: Thompsons, Johnsons, Strongs, Gudmundsons, Stephansons, Thorlaksons, Benediktsons, Bjornsons and Morkebergs.

Our work consisted of milking cows, selling beef, trapping, working on the railroad fence building, threshing and grinding grain and sawing wood for the neighbors.

Dad built a swinging bridge for Dan Morkeberg. He had it put there to get the children across the river, not having to take a boat, to get to the Hola School. Morkebergs had to take it down during W.W.11 because of the flying training at the Penhold Airport. The flyers kept going under the bridge with Oxford Airplanes.

Mother returned to the States in 1913 taking Les, Vern, Charlie and George. Christie kept house for the rest of us. Mother passed away in the States in 1917. The boys returned here in 1918 when I was able to scrape up the fare for them. In 1918, I was looking after all my brothers and sisters.

The Children of Mr. and Mrs. William Scott were: Roy V.: born 1894, married Martha Howey: George E, born in 1896, He is married and resides in Oregon: Christa, born in 1901 (dec) married Wendle Mayburg in Red Deer: Lindy I — born in 1899, married Edna Gentre of Nebraska. They reside in Red Deer: Reuben — born in 1903, married Isabelle McLoeklin and they reside in Red Deer: Leslie — born in 1907, married Ida Hamilton and they reside at Caroline: Charley — born in 1910, married Dolly Gentre (of Nebraska) and they reside in Markerville: Vern — born in 1912, married Lillian Speight. He was in W.W.11 and now reside at Salmon Arm B.C.



L. to R.: Wm. Scott, Roy, Christie, Lindie, Ruben, Les, Charlie, Vern, Lindie's daughter Wanda.

I went to the old log Hola School starting in 1902. The school was built on Stephen Stephansons' land. The school district was not formed yet.

The only place to get a dollar was by working out, selling cream, cattle, eggs and hides of fur bearing animals. We used to sell butter to G.W. West and he wouldn't take it if it had flies or mice. His was the only place we could trade.

I remember when Frank Anderson had small pox. He was in the pest house which was a tent near where Max Sucee lives today. When the quarantine was off he had to leave everything there and run naked to the next building. His clothes had been burnt. Frank always had his ups and downs.

We liked living with the Icelanders out west of Innisfail and I even learned how to make fish nets from them.

In 1911, I worked for H.B. Moore. I then went homesteading. I broke land and about starved to death and so cancelled the homestead. I did a lot of breaking and got a farm in Ridgewood area that I kept until I retired in 1965 to Innisfail. I recall that the medicine we used most — growing up — was turpentine and castor oil. I used to get disgusted living on rabbits and by 1917 all the rabbits seemed to have disappeared. I remember learning to drive up to twelve horses when I worked at John Wilson Sr. place.

I belonged to the Odd Fellows and the Temperance Organization they had at Markerville. There were about fifty members . . . which reminds me that there were a lot of stills in the West Country.

I had no time to get married until 1935. My main objective until then was to eat and make some money. We have eight children: June (Mrs. Eddie Hanson), Stanley, Joyce who was killed in a car accident in 1959), Allan, Kenny, Elaine (Mrs. Charlton), Victor and Brian.

In 1947 I had a pig ranch. We had as many as 1500 pigs at a time. It was located on the place I got in 1917. I eventually sold this land to Percy Scott.

Dad died in 1939 and is interred in Red Deer Cemetery.

MONTELEONE ON PAGE 30.
JAS. McMILLAN & CO., INC.
SUGGESTION TO
EXPORTERS
NORTHERN FURS
DEALERS IN
Furs, Hides,
Pelts,
Yellow, Wool,
Minneapolis
Sheepskin
Tannery,
Bismark and
Bismark Root.
200 TO 212 FIRST AVENUE N.
Ranchers Supply Co.

Minneapolis, Minn., Jan. 12, 1901.
H-45

CORRECTION STATEMENT.

Innisfail, Man.
DEAR SIR:—Below please find Statement of your Shipment of the
showing net proceeds of \$ 41.10 We trust the same will prove
further shipments. 31.10 ch. Paid Yours truly,
\$10.00 Ck. enc. By E. J.
STATEMENT OF GOODS RECEIVED FROM
Innisfail, U S Ex POWERS PRICE
1 Seal for large 3.25 4.00 3.25
1 Beaver small 3.25 6.50 10.50
1 Mink 2 small dark uprims 1.30 1.30
50 Rats large winter 60 1.50 7.50
200 " Small & Large Fall 21 5.50
127 " Small Fall 8 7.62
143--66 Kits 4 1.98 31.10
47.35

CHARGES:
Freight,
Cartage,
Net Proceeds.

Express 4.25
41.10

E. & O. E.

42121.

We enclose our circular corrected to the 5th inst.

NOV. 15, 1909

Cash Prices in Store Fort William and Port Huron

Straight Grades	WHEAT			
	Rej. No. One	Rej. No. Two	Rej. No. Three	Rej. No. Four
1 Nor.	.98½	.93½	.91½	.93
2 Nor.	.96½	.91½	.89½	.91½
3 Nor.	.94½			
No. 4	.90			
No. 5	.85½			
No. 6	.79			
Feed	.98¼	.96¼	.95	.90¼ 85½

OATS	BARLEY	FLAX
2 C W .34¾		
3 C W .33¾		
Ex 1 Fd		
1 Feed		
2 Feed		

WINNIPEG FUTURES			
	Wheat	Oats	Flax
Nov	.98½	.35½	158½
Dec	.95¾	.33¾	152
May	.98¾	.36	

American Wheat Futures			
Minneapolis		Chicago	
Dec	.105	Dec	107½
May	.105¾	May	105¾
		July	

Net Changes from Yesterday		
	Higher	Lower
Winnipeg	¾	
Minneapolis		
Chicago		
Liverpool	¾ a ¼ higher	

PRINTED BY THE MORNING ALBERTAN JOB DEPARTMENT, CALGARY

GROCERIES

YOU CAN SAVE MONEY BY TRADING AT OLD THE STAND

First class Flour at 3.25, 3.50 and 4.00	\$3.75	Butter Color, 25c size for	20
5 sack lots	3.15, 3.40 and 4.00	Cheese Rennet, 25c size for	20
Rolls 40 lb 1.90, 20 lb 1.00, 8 lb	45	Tuxedo Baking Powder, 1 lb tin for	15
Our Special Tea, 3 lbs for	1.00	Panshine for cleaning, 3 tins for	25
All 40c Tins at 2 lbs for	75	Royal Crown Cleanser, 3 tins for	25
Dried Apples, 3 lbs for	35	Worcester Sauce, 2 large bottles for	25
Tomatoes, 3 lb tins & 2 tins for	25	2 oz. bottles Extracts, 2 for	25
Cherries, 2 tins for	25	4 oz. bottles Extracts, vanilla or lemon	25
Plums, 2 tins for	25	Assorted Jelly Powders, 5 for	25
Pears, per tin	15	Bristle for cleansing, 3 for	25
Peaches, per tin	15	Post Tavern Special Breakfast Food, 3	25
Jam, Strawberry and Apple	53	White Fish, fresh, per lb.	6
Jam, pure Strawberry	63	Fresh Pork at keen prices	

Send in Your Orders to
or Phone 65

THE COLISEUM STORE

SCAN THESE PRICES

Frozen Fish

(BRITISH COLUMBIA)			
Salmon, 150-lbs to case above Cohoe			
Salmon, per lb.	10		
Halibut, 250-lbs to 300-lbs to case, per lb.	9		
(LAKE SUPERIOR)			
Trout, 100-lbs to case, per lb.	10		
Herrings, 100-lbs to sack, per lb.	3½		
(LAKE WINNIPEG)			
White, per lb.	9		
Catfish, per lb.	8		
Tulibee, per lb.	4		
Yellow Pike (Pickerel) per lb.	8		
Jackfish, per lb.	4		
Sturgeon, per lb.	15		
Goldeyes, per lb.	4		

Cured Fish

(SMOKED)			
Finnan Haddie—Eureka Brand, (we are Western Sale Agents for this Brand) per lb.	8		
Golden Nugget, per lb.	8		
Ocean Brand, per lb.	8		
Biscuits, (Golden Nugget) No. 5, per box	1.00		
Kippers, Atlantic, per box	2.00		
Goldeyes, packed 5 doz. and up, per doz.	50		
Digby Chicks, per 5-lb box, per box	20		

Above prices subject to change of market.

The Winnipeg Fish Co.

BOX 2152.

Winnipeg, Manitoba.

SCREENFAMILY by Edith Blanche Flinn Nee Screen

My uncle, Robert Jarvis, was my first relative to land in Innisfail in the homesteading days. He homesteaded in the Milnerton district (Knee Hill Valley). They came here from British Columbia. His wife had come from Wales, and they were married in British Columbia. I recall about Aunt going to church with a horse and stoneboat to the Milnerton school where the services were held in the summer conducted by young students.

My eldest brother, William Albert Screen (Bill) had rheumatic fever in England and the doctors had heard recoveries were more apt to occur in the pure air of Sunny Alberta. So, at the age of 15 years, he left his home near Bristol, England to come out to his aunt and uncle in Alberta.

He arrived in Innisfail in 1908 and stayed a year or two with Aunt and Uncle. He started to work for other farmers and soon had a team of horses and a wagon of his own and started trucking mail and supplies from Lakeview (28 mi. east and 2 mi. south of Innisfail) to Innisfail. Merchandise came to Innisfail by C.P.R. rail. He made the trip twice a week. These trips were bad when blizzards or mud had to be contended with. For a good trip it would take two days — of course, for the bad trips he used to feed and bunk his horse in the Twin Livery barn.

Bill wrote back home to England and encouraged his next younger brother, Harold Walter Screen, to come out here. Harold landed in Innisfail next. Then, both brothers wrote several letters home about the wonders of this country so that my parents decided to leave their home and with my two other brothers and me (a baby) joined the two already here. My Dad who was a chief burner at a brick and tile works at Littleton-on-Severn in England could see prospects of the works being closed down as there was talk of

Germany sending brick and tiles to England to be sold very cheap. They had only been here a short time when they heard news that his fears were right.

In 1915, Harold enlisted in the army in Innisfail and went overseas. He was killed in action when he was only 18 years old.

I remember when the family arrived in Innisfail in 1913 (May) Harold met them with a team and wagon to take them and their settlers belongings out into the country. They started out with Dad and the two boys among the things in the back of the wagon and me asleep in Mothers' arms sitting up with Harold on the wagon spring seat.

They used to come once a year in the fall to Innisfail and stock up with a years' supply of flour, sugar and such like bought at G.W. West and some things from Williams & Little. At that time, material by the yard was 13c. Mother and I did the sewing by hand as we had no machine.

In 1915 we went to Centers' (Bristols' father) and bought four dairy cows. Next spring they took some of these same cows to the Milnerton fair and won prizes with them.

Bill married Gwen Pennock. They have two children and live in the Arthurville district. Jesse married Inez Robinson. They had two sons. He was killed on the railroad when acting as relief brakeman in 1925. Charlie lives in Calgary and they have two children. I (Edith) married Edward Flinn in 1941. We farmed in the Knee Hill Valley district and came into Innisfail about 1944 where Edward was engaged in draying. He passed away in 1966. We have three children Jesse, Gordon and Rosetta.

ROBERT SHANKS by Mrs. Hibbert and Ed Potter

Robert Shanks was an early pioneer of the Innisfail district. He and his wife, the former Louisa Potter, and a family of five children came to this district in 1898 and settled about two miles east of Innisfail. At that time the land in this particular area was known as 'South Africa Script Land'. It wasn't up for homestead but it could be purchased for three dollars per acre. They lived here for many years making farming their way of life. Over these years there were eight more children born to them making a total of



Shanks Family: Back row: Wes, Les, Lil, Pearl, Sam, Jim, Dick; front row: Wilfred, Maggie, Nobel, Mr. Shanks, Bertie, Irene, Harry seated in front.

thirteen in all. Some years later the family moved into town until Mrs. Shanks passed away in 1921 and Robert a few years later. Both were buried in the Innisfail Cemetery.

Children:

Margaret — married to Joe Dobson; deceased
Wes — unmarried; deceased

Les — married to Pearl Cameron; deceased

Lillian — married to Harry Cameron; deceased

Irene — married to James Ferguson; deceased

Samuel — deceased

James — deceased

Pearl — married to Adolph Erickson; living in U.S.A.

Dick — living in U.S.A.

Wilfred — married to Pearl House; deceased

Noble — married to Margaret Biggs; deceased

Harry — unmarried; deceased

Birdie — living in U.S.A.

ROBERT JAMES SHARPE by James Edward Sharpe

My father, Robert James Sharpe, was born in Paisley, Ontario in 1888. He came with his parents and sisters to Milk River, Alberta, where he resided on the farm until he was seventeen.

His athletic urge asserted itself and in 1905 he went to High River where he played La Crosse and learned the barber's trade.

In 1907 he came by way of the Canadian Pacific Railway to Innisfail where he played football and operated a barber shop. In the years between 1907 and 1913 he was joined in the shop by Alvin Carter and Alex Munro. Fleet Kirkham joined the establishment in 1913. His wry sense of humor was exhibited by letting the business men of Innisfail advertise on the ceiling of his shop. This he did so his customers would have something to read while he shaved them. I wonder if "West's Store" was among the advertisers?

Bob Sharpe was married to Annie Leslie Robertson in the Baptist Church in Innisfail in 1911. Reverend M. Theodore Habershon performed the ceremony. Bob Sharpe was born in Paisley, Ontario; Annie Robertson was born in Paisley, Scotland; and they were both born on the same day of the same year.

There were two sons born to this couple. Robert James raised by Effie Green of High River (Bob Sharpe's sister) and James Edward raised by Mary Lewis of Innisfail. (Annie Sharpe's sister).

Robert married Emily Scragg of High River. Emily is the daughter of the Reverend Edward Thomas Scragg who ministered in the Methodist Church in Innisfail in 1911. Robert died at the age of 43 in 1957 in New York where he was a research chemist in the Lederle Laboratories. They had one son by adoption who is now 21 years old.

James married Enid Rowan of Sylvan Lake in 1945 and resides in the Oklahoma district 12 miles west of Innisfail. To this couple five children were born. James served with the airforce for five years, joining in Sept. 1940 and discharged in 1945, a sergeant.

Bob Sharpe was an accomplished athlete, having played La Crosse in High River, football and curling in Innisfail, and no one could outrun him in a foot race. A certain man in Innisfail had a horse which he said could run 50 yards, turn around a stake and beat any human being on foot. One fellow tried it and the horse won. The second taker was Bob Sharpe and he outran the horse.

The Sharpes lived in the house now owned by J. Niblock while in Innisfail. Bob Sharpe was a member of the Odd Fellows and Orange Lodges of Innisfail and was a member of the Baptist Church.

Annie Leslie Sharpe died in 1920 and Bob Sharpe died in 1935. Both are interred in Calgary.

MR. & MRS. E. A. SHENFIELD by Mrs. John Stevenette

My earliest recollections are of a tiny girl of three, standing on a late spring morning close to small sod shacks and not far from a little white tent in a small clearing five miles east of where Bowden now stands. The sod shack housed my father and mother, myself and two younger brothers, Vic and Albert; and the tent, my brother Mark and his bride of six weeks, Alice.

My family had recently arrived from England aboard a cattle boat, the "Labrador". The railroad from Calgary to Edmonton had just recently come through and we arrived in the village of Bowden in May, 1894, and were met at the station by two older brothers, Harry and Edwin, with wagon and ox-team. My brothers had come from England some time earlier and filed on a homestead for Dad at the same time as their own. The right of entry fee of \$10 was duly paid and Dad's next concern was the building of a home. Even the best of sod shacks have their disadvantages, especially in the rainy season; fortunately for us, a Mr. Isaac de Pencier, a batchelor who lived in a fairly habitable house west of Bowden, invited us to share his abode, which we were most happy to do. Dad had been a builder and contractor in the old country and he was determined that ours should be a frame house.

To the north of us was the thriving town, called in those days Poplar Grove, now renamed Innisfail. Mr. G. W. West owned a general merchandise store with Mr. George Bryan as manager of a lumber yard in connection. Mr. West was able to bring in a carload of lumber monthly; there was no telephone, so those wishing lumber were happy if they just happened to be in town on the day the carload arrived. Doors, windows and fittings were brought by covered wagon from Calgary. With the help of my brother Mark, also a builder, the house, a two story, six-roomed structure, was framed and we were able to live in part of it.

The next year saw quite a bit of progress. The required cultivating of 30 acres was accomplished with the aid of Mr. James Fletcher who had acquired a sulky (a one furrowed plow). Our neighbors gathered to watch the wonderful sight of a man plowing and riding. I think it took four horses; and instead of a packer, which followed the one harrow

drawn by one horse, Mr. Fletcher had fashioned a roller made from a huge log. After the virgin soil was thus prepared, Dad broadcast the seed from a pail fastened to his waist. This method was replaced later with a hand seeder, but the operator still had to walk the field from one end to the other. It was some years before we rose to the status of a drill and other machinery.

In the meantime, mother and Alice, coming as it were from the lap of luxury, had been initiated into the art of soap making, candle making, and bread making. Butter making was a job which Dad and I helped with, and how out of patience we got when the butter wouldn't 'come' after countless hours of turning the churn by hand. We learned later that the cream was not the right temperature; but mother became a super butter maker and many the pound and half-pound prints that found their way to Mr. G. W. West's store to trade for groceries. I was allowed the brown eggs to take to the store, to trade for a pair of stockings or some small garment. I always did business with Miss Jessie Playle, who was employed in Mr. West's store. Mr. West's son, Frank, successfully carried on the business, in the original store, original site; it ran for a total of 77 years.



Edwin and Mary Shenfield and son George.

It was now getting close to the time for which all had been anxiously awaiting — the possession of the prized patent. I had come to the wise age of seven years. Mother was lying down with a headache, father had gone to town, and I was more or less 'in charge.' A rap on the door took me racing to see who our visitor might be. Indians frequently came, but to my surprise, it was a well-dressed pleasant gentleman asking to see my father. I told him that Dad would be home soon and tried to entertain him, showing him the pictures I had and my copy book. At his question, "Have you any pets?" I took him out to show my three sheep and the little house and yard my dad had built to house them and the newly built log stable. This led to a complete tour of the farm — our garden, two small fields of grain, our small herd of milk cows in the pasture, our team of horses and my little pony, and of course, mother's flock of various breeds of chickens.

Our home was now pretty well completed with its large upstairs veranda and trellis trim and looked pretty nice to us in its setting of well-kept garden and flowers. At this point the rumble of wagon wheels was heard, and Dad had come home. Excitedly I took my visitor to meet him. He greeted my father with, "Here are the papers for your land, Mr. Shenfield, your little daughter has proven a wonderful reporter. I am the homestead inspector." I wish I could remember his name. We were a happy family that day.

With the coming of the railroad, settlers began to arrive; some neighbors were Corsiatto, Halls, Langtons, Campbells, Boyds, Brewsters, Elphecks, and Frys. I started to attend the little one-roomed school when I was nine years of age, but had been pretty well tutored in the three R's by my sister-in-law Alice and one of my mother's closest friends, Mrs. A.M. Nisbet who was a teacher and lived across the coulee east of us. Miss Mabel Moore was my teacher and the school stood on what is now our fine paved No. 2 Highway. My teacher's father owned the land close by to the west and had been postmaster after the coming of the railroad. This land was being sought as the future Bowden townsite. Mr. Moore, however, could not see eye to eye with the company, so without much ado they did business one mile farther north and Bowden came into being on the site where it now stands.

HARRY EDWARD SHENFIELD by Connie Huntley

H.E. Shenfield was born in Yarmouth, England in 1865. He came to Canada as a young man, first working in lumber camps in Ontario then on dairy farms. He returned to England for awhile and then was offered a chance to study law, but refused as he was more interested in returning to Canada to take up homesteading.

He bought a team and buckboard in Calgary and drove through the south country but homesteaders weren't given a warm welcome so he started for Edmonton. He got as far as Lone Pine (below Bowden) and camped here. The view was beautiful and so he decided to stay. His homestead was east of Bowden. Having only a few acres cleared, he got a job with a survey outfit surveying the west country (now Caroline, Dickson etc). He had to go for provisions and he crossed the Red Deer River and came upon a man leaning against his shack. It was quite a surprise to them both seeing a white man. The man was Sam Arnold and he was either a grandfather or uncle to Mrs. Gordon Phillips. There was a stopping house that people would come to and here they would buy water — everyone was always looking for water.

January 25, 1895 H.E. Shenfield married Eleanor Dixon (widow). She had one daughter, Mary, who married Jack Hutton in 1913. Harry & Eleanor (my mother and Dad) drove up to Poplar Grove (Innisfail) with a team of oxen and were married in the Anglican church. They had a family of nine. Dr. George was the doctor and Mrs. Fletcher looked after mother and each of us in turn. The family is: Dorothy (Mrs. Goss of Victoria), Maud who died at

the age of 2 yrs. (Uncle Ed went to Innisfail on a hand car for the doctor but Maud had passed away before they returned). Jack and Jean were the twins and weighed only 2-1/2 and 3-1/2 lbs. They were kept in the oven (with the door open of course) and were so small they were bathed in a dipper; Marjorie (Mrs. Frank Brewin of Purple Springs), Nora (Mrs. Hugh Impey of Breton,), Stanley who passed away at 1-1/2 yrs., Constance (me) (Mrs. Robert Huntley of Innisfail).

In 1899 Dad moved into Bowden and started a store and was a Notary of Public. He was the first postmaster in Bowden and his father hauled the mail. In 1907 they built the 'big house' as it was then called. Bishop Pinkham used to drive up from Calgary every two weeks and hold church services in the church across the street. He always stayed over night and drove back the next day. Dad had helped haul the logs for the Anglican church in Bowden and the church was built by the members of the church. Dad and Uncle Ed held auction sales all over the country. They would often leave at 4 a.m. and would return home in the small hours of the next day.

We all went to school in Bowden with Mrs. Hargreaves, Miss Cowan and Miss Goodfellow as teachers. On Oct. 14th, 1913 we moved to the Little Red Deer district. Mother named the farm the 'Scarside farm' after a farm of her people in England.

While attending school in Bowden, Jack and five others didn't like the teacher so they decided to blow up the school. They got some dynamite, but Dad came along and spoiled their plans and gave them all a good licking. After moving up to the farm Marjorie, Nora and Jean went to Little Red Deer school for a while then we went into Innisfail and roomed there. Jack went to Calgary to Western Canada College., going with Jack West and Ossie Fawdry.

The oldtimers we all remember best were Frank Anderson who owned the livery stable, Jim Black, Lougheeds, Latimers, Nesbits, Billy Cranston, Pete McClary who had a hardware store, Charlie Johnson who was an old mountie, G.W. West who had the store in Innisfail and where we did all our shopping until Frank closed the store much to everyone's sorrow.

Dad passed away in Dec. 1949 and Mother in June of 1954.

VICTOR HAROLD SHENFIELD by Mrs. Hazel Stevenett

Mr. and Mrs. E.A. Shenfield were my fathers' parents. Mr. and Mrs. James Fletcher were my mother's parents.

Mr. and Mrs. E.A. Shenfield came from Lowestaff, Suffolk, England to this area in April, 1894. My father, Victor H. Shenfield, was born in Lowestaff on April 18, 1880.

The main reason Mr. and Mrs. E.A. Shenfield came here was because two older sons, Harry and Ed had come to this part of the country in 1893 and took up homesteads.

The boat trip from England took over two weeks and the ocean was rough at times. Ice bergs were

sighted. The train trip across Canada was slow and they prepared their own meals on board. The Shenfields brought with them their son Victor (who was 14 years old) and daughter Jessie (who was three years of age).

Father received his education in England. Here he worked with his Dad on the homestead, helped neighbors from time to time as well. He was able to get a homestead in the Lone Pine district and he lived there for about twenty years. He married Rosinda Fletcher. She had come with her parents from St. Catherines, Ontario to Bowden. Five of the seven children were born on the homestead. Children from this union were: Hazel (me). I married Frank D. Stevenett (see Stevenett story). Second daughter was Ruby E. she married William J. Henderson of Bowden. Kathleen May married Arthur Kruger and they reside at Victoria. Jessie Jane married Robert Wicks and they reside in Innisfail. Olive Rosinda married Allan McDermid and they reside in Olds.



Rose Fletcher and Vic Shenfield on their Wedding Day.

To make some extra money, father worked for the Government for several years as foreman in building roads and bridges. The bridges were built of wood piling for a foundation, then finished with planks. Father ran the pile driver. The cook at these camps was Mr. Arthur Webb. Father returned to the farm about every two weeks and was home during the winter. He eventually sold the farm and we moved into Bowden where he served as town constable and later with the Alberta Provincial Police. He was a game warden and also a special constable with the R.C.M.P. He later served as a mail carrier for R.R. 1 Bowden.

He joined the Veterans' Guard of Canada in World War II. Dad wasn't really cut out to be a farmer and this was tragic as it was a big job for my mother doing chores housework and raising a family. She did this

with the help of a hired man when one could be found.

When I (Hazel) was about six years old I learned to ride horse back and it was my job to round up the cows for milking — night and morning. There were no fences and the cows could travel miles and often get mixed with neighbors cattle. One night I went out for the cows and a neighbor's bull was with them. I had to bring the bull home with the herd and into the corral he went. Mother guarded the gate and I tried to get that bull out. No luck. He charged my pony with his long horns and I got away by grabbing the rail fence. About this time Dad came home and was he mad! Even in those days bulls were not to run at large. Dad went and loaded his gun and shot the bull. He then went over to the neighbor and told him what he had done. The next day, the neighbor came over and went into our barn and shot our bull. The result was, we had two mad men and two dead bulls.

We had lots of wild game and often enjoyed a good rabbit stew. Neighbors would take turns in butchering. There would be beef and pork and the odd lamb. We raised turkeys, geese, and chickens. We made our own butter and had our own eggs. We often traded at West's Store for flour, sugar, yeast, baking powder, salt and dried fruit. We later did the same in Bowden. Mother baked her own bread. Twenty loaves at a time, and we usually had good gardens.

We lived in a log house and believe me, it was air-conditioned. In the winter we had ice water first thing in the morning — but we survived. We didn't have a lot of clothes, but we could along as mother could sew. Relatives in England sent out clothes that Mother could make over — coats, dresses etc for us. The pieces left over she made into quilts. We used sheep pelts for mats and under our feet in the sleighs.

The greatest hardship was keeping warm in the winter in the old log house. We had lots of wood on our farm, but it had to be cut, loaded and hauled. Next it had to be sawed up into stove lengths, then split and piled. This was all done by hand.

Early neighbors were the Hess family who moved into the Lone Pine area in 1903. Mr. and Mrs. Herman Hengstler came from Kansas. The Alex Currie family came in 1906 from Montana. Mr. Templer came in 1900, but only stayed a few years, but he did build a lovely log building. The neighbors cattle enjoyed these buildings for many summers for shelter and so did a "bob cat". I recall one time I went for our cows and they were in this old barn and I got off the pony and into the barn to chase the cows out. In there was a lynx lying on the oat box. I don't remember who got out first. There was also Mr. Allan Brown who came in 1900. The story goes that there was a huge Pine tree and a stopping house near the Lone Pine Slough. One moonlight night, Mr. Brown went and cut down the old pine tree. The stopping house was bought by Mr. Ewing. He came from New Zealand in 1903. He used to wear a frock coat and a top hat. He raised horses and later returned to his homeland. There was Ned Nolan who came to Calgary in 1890. He bought a homestead in the Sum-



Starting the day on the Shenfield Homestead.

mit district. He had wonderful hay, but a prairie fire swept through the country and he lost everything. Mr. and Mrs. Joe Corsiatto came to homestead in 1900. They came from the U.S.A. by way of Canmore. He by trade was a coalminer from Italy. Dad worked at Canmore and assisted the Corsiattos in moving to their homestead here. The Sam Boffies came from Cornwall, England in 1892. They knew nothing about farming and it was very difficult for Mrs. Boffie as she had no knowledge of cooking or sewing. Mother used to help her all she could. Mr. Elphicks was an old time fiddler. My Dad played the mouth organ. These two would play for dances. There were the waltz, quadrilles, minuets, heel and toe and others. Dad taught these to me when I was six years old.

I remember the time there was a terrible rain storm with thunder. It always seemed worse at night. I got up and went to the window to watch it. Mother had set out a mouse trap near the window and it snapped on my big toe. I surely thought the thunder had got me!

Dad belonged to the Modern Woodman Lodge and also bought cattle for Issy Kline and Mose Manolson. I attended school at Lone Pine. The new school was built in 1925. Sam Tribe was the janitor when I attended. Many years later I met Sam at a reunion.

My first teacher was Miss McAllister and she gave me a part in the Christmas Concert. I was Buster Brown and she got me a suit to wear.

Families we knew well were: Jimmie Blacks', Albert Lougheeds', Jack Allans', Oscar Andersons',

Baileys', Hays', Wes Waltons', Brewsters', Bruces', Blackburns', Farmers', Sherman Fishers', McLarens' Sr., Halls', Robert Hoare, Charlie Johnsons', Martin Nisbets', Saunders', H. Wilsie, Charlie Howard, Bannermans, William Cranstons, John Turnbells and the Huffs. Mr. Bailey had a steam threshing outfit. Mr. Scarff also did this.

Dr. George was the only doctor for miles around and often my grandmothers Fletcher and Shenfield would go night or day to assist in bringing a new baby into the world.

I joined the Farm Womens' Union of Alberta in 1942. This organization is made up of locals all over the Province. I was a member of the Womens' Institute in Penhold for several years. I joined the United Church in Innisfail in 1926 and have taken a very active part in all groups therein. I am a Past Matron of the Order of the Eastern Star and have served as President of the Innisfail Rest Room.

I remember Miss Jury, and what a great church worker she was. There was John Calder the druggist in Innisfail who was so kind. Mrs. Tester, teaching school in Little Red Deer and Gordon. She was Miss Scott then.

Pearl Shenfield passed away at the age of three weeks in 1906. Lindsey Gordon Shenfield died at the age of six years in 1919. Rosinda Shenfield passed away August 11, 1920 at the age of thirty-five years. Victor Harold Shenfield passed away April 19, 1957 at the age of seventy-seven.

W.F. SHERWOOD by Fay Ormiston

My father, W.F. Sherwood was born at Kirksville, Mo. He first came to Western Canada in 1908 from Humphrey, Missouri and obtained land near Mayton, Alberta. This was suitable for raising Dairy and Beef cattle. He later sold these holdings and bought wheat land from Mr. Sutter thirteen miles east of Innisfail. He lived there until his death in 1932.

When my father brought his wife and five children from Missouri we travelled on an emigrant train. This trip took seven days. It was a trip we children thought a picnic as our relatives had prepared lunches which was supplemented by obtaining coffee and milk along the way.

Before coming to Canada, my father owned and operated a general Store in Humphrey, Mo. He had never farmed, but it appears many people were



L. to R.: Joe Fletcher, Rose, Mr. James and Richard Fletcher; Jim Fletcher on binder; Ed Shenfield, a neighbor, Mr. Shenfield; Ellen, Mrs. Jane, and Violet Fletcher.

emigrating to the new land of Western Canada where they hoped to make their fortunes.

In thinking back to tragic events I think of the farmer, full of hope in the spring for the coming season, but when harvest arrives, the hail, drought and grasshoppers have taken their toll. His hopes ruined. But not the "spirit" of the pioneer, he renewed his hopes for the coming season.

Our greatest hardship was obtaining fuel (coal) for stoves used at that time. My father, driving a four horse team, to the Three Hill Coal Mines to obtain coal, often returning with frozen feet, nose and face.

My mother was the former Bessie Molberly. They were married in 1890. She was a little woman and had always led a sheltered life in her old home. When I think of how she managed with five children, raising poultry, gardens, sewing — no conveniences, she must have been a brave soul.

The children of this marriage were: Glen, (dec), married Carrie Armstrong, Silver City, New Mexico Agnes — who married Andrew Cannon (dec). She now lives in Lethbridge. Fay — who married Fred Ormiston (dec). She is residing at Hanna. Fred Ormiston's father was the Engineer on the C & E Railway from Calgary to Edmonton. The conductor at this time was Bill Gallagher. Scotty Ormiston was very well known around Innisfail and had a real crowd of friends. His daughter married Billy Scott's son. Fred and Fays' daughter Pat, was born in Innisfail and attended school there for some time. Frances (dec) married Jack Rogers. At present Jack and sons are living in their home at Long Beach, California. George who married Anne Cameron (dec) and later married Helen Tuson. They reside in Calgary.

Our closest neighbors and friends when living at Mayton were Mr. & Mrs. B. Rosenbargo, Mr. Sam Cummins, and the Hamilton Bros. They were all such fine people kind and helpful to us. Later on the Sutter farm, near neighbors were not too plentiful. Mr. Henry Holmes, whom my father held in highest esteem was the nearest.

I remember our winters were more severe than we have today. We drove five miles to school when weather permitted. Later, one by one, we attended High School in Innisfail. I think my parents achieved much by their hard work and sacrifices to educate five children, thus giving us an opportunity for a fuller life.

Ready cash was not too plentiful, and was obtained by the sale of dairy products eggs and beef cattle. My parents would be most astonished at prices received today.

THE CARL SICK FAMILY by Walter Sick

Carl Emil Sick was the fourth child born to Wolfe Frederick Sick and Magdalene Hanson Sick. The Sick family had emigrated from Denmark to Mankato, Minnesota. They later moved to Duluth and in 1901 came to Canada. They arrived by C.P.R. at Olds in May along with a group of other settlers and spent the summer living in surveyor's tents that were provided for the new settlers. Later they rented the Samis house. This house, located three miles

north of Olds, was made of stone. They transported their belongings by rafts down the Lone Pine Creek to their homestead eighteen miles east of Didsbury, in the Burnside district. Grandmother Sick was a trained midwife and travelled, often by horseback, to assist at the birth of approximately two hundred babies in the Burnside district and in Didsbury where they moved in 1910. She was killed in 1918, in Didsbury, when hit by a runaway dray team. Grandfather Sick died in 1924.

My father, Carl Sick, worked as herdsman for the Pat Burns' Company on the Burns' Ranch located one and one-half miles east of the Sick homestead. In 1909, he obtained his own homestead and with the help of his father and brother built a house. In 1910, he married Dora Catherine Klitzke. The Klitzke family had emigrated from Plainview, Nebraska and homesteaded in the Bancroft district, nine miles southwest of Sunnyslope.



Mr. and Mrs. Carl Sick

The early life of the Sick family at Burnside was spent breaking up the prairie sod for cropping and building barns and sheds to complete the farmstead. They raised horses, cows, pigs, sheep and chickens. My father's pride was in raising horses, Clydes and Percherons. These big horses were in demand for farm work and were valued from \$300.00 to \$400.00 a team. The family's social life consisted of the usual pioneer district entertainment of box socials, dances and Christmas concerts. The annual rabbit shoot, which was held south of the old Mayton Store, provided a welcome supply of meat for the winter.

In 1919, Carl Sick sold his farm through the Soldier Settlement Board and moved into Didsbury. He took a vulcanizing course and in September moved to Innisfail and started the Innisfail Vulcanizing Works. He operated this business for several years and then worked as front end man for Mr. D.H. Kremer at Kremer's Garage.

When Innisfail Council decided they needed a policeman for night duty, my father applied for and got the job. For over twenty years he enjoyed this work and while a great deal of it was routine, such as checking premises and patrol work, there was usually



Mr. Carl Sick, Innisfail Policeman; Albert Klitzke, Arthur Sick, Mrs. Carl Sick, Walter Sick, Elaine and Alan Churchill.

someone about with whom to share a visit and a cup of coffee. He made the job very personal and never failed to extend courtesies to individuals, such as meeting the night trains to walk home with late travellers. He usually had in his possession a key for many of the businesses and homes in Innisfail in order to check the property during the owner's absence.

When the R.C.M.P. detachment took over the Innisfail police work, my father joined the staff of the Independent Creameries in Innisfail and worked there until he retired. He was a member of the Masonic Lodge and was Tyler of the Innisfail Lodge for nineteen years. He served as an elder of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church for seventeen years. He was interested in gardening and looked after a large vegetable and flower garden. Carl Sick passed away in 1959 and was buried in the Innisfail Cemetery.

My mother was a long time member of the Presbyterian Ladies Aid and a willing worker, doing handwork and baking for the church teas and bakesales. She was an enthusiastic homemaker and garden worker and for years kept a cow and a few chickens on the Innisfail property. A teacher or a bank clerk often made their home with us. Mother kept the Innisfail home until 1971 when she sold it and moved into the Autumn Glen Lodge.

Three children were born to Carl and Dora Sick: Walter, Winnie and Arthur. Walter married Miss Elva Nolan and they were parents of three sons, Gerald and twins, Roger and Russell. Winnie married Mr. Frank Churchill and they were parents of Elaine and Alan. Winnie passed away in 1943 and was buried in the Innisfail Cemetery. Elaine married Mr. Don Bergsten and their children were Greg, Gerald, Joanne and Johnnie. Alan married Miss Marlene McKinnley and their children were Tammy, Tracy and Tanya. Arthur married Miss Muriel Hawkes and they were parents of Marian, Gordon and Douglas. Marian married Mr. Pat Stewart.

Walter, Winnie and Arthur Sick attended Innisfail elementary and high school. During World War II, Walter served with the Royal Canadian Airforce and Arthur with the Royal Canadian Navy. Upon discharge Walter settled in Bowden and Arthur in Calgary.

KRISTJAN SIGURDSON by Doris Eluik

Kristjan Sigurdson came to the Markerville district in April 1901 from Baldur, Manitoba where he had lived for 19 years after emigrating from Argyle, Iceland in 1882. He was accompanied to Manitoba by his wife Johanna and two daughters, Sigrun and Aslaug. The latter died of measles in Winnipeg shortly after their arrival. They had been five weeks at sea on the English freighter 'Kamuens'. It was a rough crossing and many of the passengers became sea sick and many had communicable diseases. They slept wherever they could find a place to curl up among the freight.

The worst part of the journey was the struggle to cross the Great Lakes. Everything had to be unloaded and carried across the strips of land to get from lake to lake and then reloaded on another ship. This was a very trying time — each pioneer on foot, carrying children and belongings while herding what livestock they had.

Kristjan's father, Sigurdur Bjarnason and his uncle Johannes had come to New Iceland (Gimli) Manitoba in 1876, later taking up land near Baldur. This is where Kristjan bought land and where he farmed from his arrival in 1882 until he left to come to Alberta in 1901. His father died during this time of scurvy as his diet consisted almost entirely of fish.

Three daughters and five sons were born to Kristjan and Johanna Sigurdson in Manitoba. They were Kristine and Gudney who died during a diphtheria epidemic in 1888. Other children were Sigurdur, Sarah, Alfonso, Franklin and Kristjan who came west with the family. They also had a son Johannes who remained with his uncle in Manitoba.

The family came by third class CPR which meant that the seats were not cushioned. They also brought along with the household effects their three horses, 16 head of cattle and various farm implements. They arrived by train in Innisfail and were met by friends from the Markerville district. They crossed the Red Deer River by ferry just at spring break-up time while the river was very high. Just after they crossed, the ferry was taken downstream by the raging current.

Mr. Sigurdson took up a homestead 6 miles north of Markerville. The same year he purchased land from the CPR at \$2.50 per acre with payments of \$60 per year. It was on the CPR land SE27-37-2-5 that the family home was built — a log house with a sod roof; two years later a lumber roof was added. It was found when the road allowance was surveyed that the house had been built partly on the farm land but with the major portion of the house being situated on the road allowance.

Kristjan Sigurdson passed away on Sept. 23, 1925 and his wife in January 1941. Descendants of the original family are as follows: Guthrun (Mrs. John Olson) passed away in January 1970. She had two sons Fred and Kari of Markerville; and three daughters, Regina (Mrs. Pete Johannson) of Markerville, Johanna (Mrs. Ben Dolphin) who died in 1945, and Kristine (Mrs. John Mueller) of Olds. Sarah (Mrs. Stanley Hansen) who lived most of her life in

Ontario. She died in 1962 and is buried in Tindastol cemetery. Sigurdur (1888-1960) married Jonina Stephenson and farmed all his life in the Centreville district. They had one daughter Edna (Mrs. Potter) of Innisfail. Johannes who has lived all his life in Baldur, Manitoba. Franklin born in 1893, farmed with his brother Chris on land homesteaded by their father. Christian (1895-1955) who married Margaret Mae Brown, lived all his life on the home place except for the time he spent overseas with the Canadian Army in WWI. They had three sons — Norman of Baldur; Franklin — living on the land homesteaded by his grandfather; and Elmer at Centreville; and two daughters Doris (Mrs. George Eliuk) of Innisfail and Wilma of Calgary.

EWEN MACDONALD SIMPSON by Marion Gibbon & Margaret Thomson

Ewen Simpson (our father) was born in Wingham, Ontario in 1872. He came from Ontario west to find land that resembled his home in Ontario. His homestead was in Little Red Deer by Buffalo Creek. He arrived here in 1895 having stopped off in Manitoba on the way to work for a while stooking, threshing and spent the winter there. He had worked on the farm in Ontario previous to coming west with his oldest brother to help educate two other brothers — one became a lawyer, the other a doctor of medicine. When this task was finished he came west.

The first home he built was close to the creek and was flooded. The next house was built near the top of the hill. In the winter Dad went to Salmon Arm logging to get enough to buy animals, supplies, machinery etc. He hauled cream from the neighboring farms to the creamery for a small wage.

Dad was very fond of the bagpipes and it was through this love that he met his future wife, Mary A. Morison. Dad and his brother Jack, who was a piper, were haying on some open range in the Big Bend district when they heard bagpipes in the distance. They followed the sound to the William Morison homestead where Jack Morison was playing merrily. Here Dad met Mary (Jack's sister). Dad didn't live to see his grandson Robert Gibbon take up the pipes.

Mary Agnes Morison was the eldest daughter of William & Helen Morison. They had come to the Big

Bend district from Scotland in 1898. The Morisons' came to Canada with four children: Mary, William Jr., John, and George.

There were five children born to Mr. & Mrs. Ewen Simpson: Helen married Charles Lord in 1942. They had 2 children, John Charles & Eileen. Helen was a teacher. She died in March 1956. Margaret married John W. Thomson in 1932. They farmed in the Little Red Deer District until they retired to Innisfail in 1971. They have 4 children: John, Kay, Jean and Pat. Arthur William the only son was born in 1910 and died in 1916. Isabel married Tom Sharp in 1941. She teaches school and resides in Medicine Hat. They have two children Sandy & Joan. Marion married Herbert Gibbon in 1941. She is a nurse and resides on the old Simpson homestead. They have 7 children: Jim, Helen, Ross, George, Robert, Brian and Sandra.

Our neighbors were Mr. Nicholson usually referred to as "My Word" — the only first name I ever heard, Harry Shenfield, Dave Sinclair, Mr. Carter, Jim Brown, L.M. Sage, and Hugh MacDougall. Hugh and father would talk by the hour and walk each other home when one went to visit the other. The Shenfield family were Anglicans and one incident I remember as a child was a visit by Mr. John Orton. To get to Shenfields one had to go through the Simpson yard through a gate made of boards and down through the pasture. Mr. Orton came motoring through the yard and right through the gate (which was closed). All Dad heard from Mr. Orton was "The bloody brakes wouldn't work."

Parties at Jim Browns' were famed in the district. The music was fiddles and mouth organs etc.

The year Dad went to the bush out west to cut logs for lumber to build a new barn the temperature was frequently 60 below zero. Dad acquired a section of land and a pleasant modern home and all this without the aid of power machinery, only horse power, and long days of work clearing and breaking four quarters of bush land mostly by hand. During the war years men were very hard to get as help and so Dad ran the farm himself, cutting grain all day, stooking it at night after chores were done.

He raised grain for feeding cattle, pigs and poultry and a small amount for sale to raise money. The produce was sold in Innisfail.

We children attended the Little Red Deer school up to grade VIII. Then we drove or rode horseback to the Innisfail School. Some we went to school with were: Harry Scott family, Jim, Scarlett family, William Edgar Sr. family, Hugh McDougall family, Joe Manuel family, Harry Shenfield family, John Duncan family, George Calder family. The first teacher was Mr. Brain whom I recall was quite adept with the strap. Miss Jessie Brown and Miss Lillian Edgar were two of our local teachers. Most families in our circle were also farmers. The John Brown family had a large number of girls. Jim Milligan had Kitty & Iris (Helen's and my age). The McKay family went to the Innisfail school.

One story I remember hearing which always amused me was about a lady of the community who



L. to R.: Mrs. Simpson, Marion, Margaret, Isabelle, Helen, Mr. Simpson.



In need of refreshment during haying — Mr. E. Simpson and daughter Margaret.

for years with her brother, Ed Dodd, was assistant postmaster (Jen Stiles). It was at the time when the post office was in a grocery store and stock was frequently kept in a barrel. Apparently a customer came into the store and made some remark to Mrs. Stiles which she didn't think was funny and she clipped the gentleman with her umbrella. Backwards he went into a barrel of onions and there he stayed doubled up until the slanted nails were removed and assistance given to get him out.

In 1912, Mother took Margaret, Helen and Arthur to Calgary on the train. It was a really great occasion and the red plush seats were never to be forgotten.

Ewen Simpson died June 28, 1941. Mary Simpson died Oct. 22, 1961. Both are buried in the Innisfail Cemetery.

JOHN A. SIMPSON by Mrs. Arthur Simpson

John A. Simpson was from Ontario. He was born August 20, 1854. He attended Prout's Commercial College in Toronto and later apprenticed as a "Joiner" and Carpenter.

He moved to Winnipeg in September, 1879, to Calgary in July of 1890 and to Innisfail in 1891. In 1892 he opened a lumber yard in Innisfail in partnership with Mr. F.W. Archer. He and Mr. Archer owned the building where the Union Bank was.

In 1894 he was elected to the North West Territories Assembly which then met in Regina. Mrs. William Varty made a black broadcloth suit for him to wear to Regina. When the Provinces formed, he was elected to the first Provincial Legislature from this area. He was Deputy Speaker of the house.

He was a member of Innisfail's first council. He was Mayor in 1915-16. John A. Simpson married Anna Proudfoot January 1st, 1879 at Wingham, Ontario. Mrs. Simpson was always a great help-mate, taking a keen interest in all social and church activities and providing a pioneer friend to all in need. The Simpsons had four daughters and two sons: Mrs. W.R. Charley, Mrs. A.S. Thompson, Miss Margaret Simpson, Mrs. B. Lemeaux, W.H. Simpson and A.S. Simpson.



John A. Simpson, Member for N.W.T. at Regina from Innisfail district in 1902; First elected M.L.A. in first Provincial Parliament of Prov. of Alberta in 1905.

MR. & MRS. DAVID SINCLAIR by William Sinclair

Isabella Brown was the first woman to live in the district. Born in Glasgow, Scotland, she arrived in Calgary in 1883. A 16 year old girl, and the only woman in the sixth train to reach that settlement, Bella, as she was called, had come to keep house for her brothers John and Jim Brown.

The Browns had asked the surveyors in Calgary where the best land in what is now Alberta was to be found. Three areas were recommended. They chose the region of the Little Red Deer. Her brother Jim drove Bella 84 miles on the old Edmonton trail to "The Spruces", and then west across a ford in the river to the district of Oklahoma. Bella's new home, a log shack, had no floor.

Things must have seemed strange, often frightening, to this young girl brought up in a big city thousands of miles away. She and the missionary's wife at Hobbema, 80 milesto the north, were the only women in the vast region between Edmonton and Calgary. The homestead lay in the ancient hunting grounds of the Stony Indians. As if to assuage Bella's fears, they would show her prayer books they carried that were signed by the Rev. John McDougall of Morley.

One time, when her brothers were away on a wagon trip to Calgary for supplies, she noticed Indians in the vicinity. Alone, she barricaded the door of the cabin. During the night she heard a terrible thud near the door. Terrified, she hid under a bed, hoping the Stonies would think no one was home. Her brothers returned the next day, to tell her they knew she was still there because smoke was coming from the chimney. Then they pointed out that the horrible noise had only been caused by a saddle slipping off its peg.

There were good times, too, of course. There were dances. So that partners could be chosen, as there



Isabelle and David Sinclair

were no girls other than Bella, half the men would wear handkerchiefs around their sleeves.

Bella left for Calgary just before the outbreak of the Riel Rebellion. She was married at Kananaskis on December 28, 1886.

Her husband, David Sinclair, was born in Forres, Scotland in 1857. Apprenticed as a cabinet-maker, he came west in 1882 to work on bridges then being built in the mountains for the C.P.R. He arrived in the territory ahead of the railway, and walked from Blackfoot Crossing (Gleichen) to the mountains. As he and his companions entered the Rockies at the Gap, they met a hunting party of Stonies. Relieved to find the horses only loaded with freshly-killed game, they continued to Banff. They crossed the Bow River on a raft and visited the underground sulphur hot springs, which they entered by means of a rough ladder placed there by the Indians.

After his marriage, David Sinclair continued to work for the C.P.R. He and his bride occupied quarters in a box-car that travelled back and forth between Medicine Hat and the Rockies. By that time Bella was less frightened of the natives, and much stronger. One day, broom in hand, she spotted an Indian bent over as he looted her meat locker. She gave him a resounding whack, and the startled thief disappeared across the prairie.

In 1889, Mr. and Mrs. Sinclair took up a homestead six miles west of the present town. Their first child, George, was born that year in their new log house. Two other sons, Jack and Bob were born soon after. Then followed two daughters, first Isabel and, later Marion. All attended the Little Red Deer School, built in 1896, a mile from the farm.

In those days the lure of the railway was strong. The two oldest boys left the farm to become engineers with the C.P.R. Isabel married Jack Lubert, himself to become an engineer with the same company. Bob, too, decided to leave. He later became Dean of Agriculture at the University of Alberta. Only Marion, now Mrs. William Bruyckere, of Ponoka, is still alive. Major Vernor Sinclair, of Red Deer, the eldest of 13 grandchildren, was killed in action during the Second World War.

David Sinclair developed a herd of purebred Shorthorn cattle, one of the first in Central Alberta. For many years his entries captured honors in the Calgary and Lacombe bull sales.

In 1930, Mr. and Mrs. Sinclair left the farm to retire in Innisfail. There, in their home two blocks north of the hospital, they enjoyed raising flowers, and watching and feeding the song birds that they seemed to attract to them. David Sinclair died in 1948, his wife two years later.

THE SMITH FAMILY by Mrs. Roy Saunders & Mrs. Nellie Wynn

John, Anthony and Thomas Smith came to Alberta in 1892 from Ontario. They arrived in Innisfail by train and hired a livery team and went to the Horse Shoe Lake district to file on homesteads.

In 1893 their Mother and Father, Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Smith Sr., Robert, May and Fred arrived. Fred Smith was eight years old. They all took up homesteads as they became old enough. At first the older boys had to go away and get work. They went south to hay. Tom helped to freight between Golden and Ft. McLeod and also helped survey Calgary.

Tom Smith was born in Bruce County, Ontario in 1872. He married Clara Blanche Sparks in Innisfail on Nov. 6, 1901. They had four children: Frank who married Margaret Woods. They have one daughter, Myrne (Mrs. Carl Kirkham). Frank passed away in 1947. Helen Elizabeth, married Leander Ortwin. They have 6 children: Delton, Alice, Clayton, Grace, Joyce and Bernice. Florence May married Roy Saunders. They have 2 children: Marie and Dale. Olive Beatrice married Fred Miller and they have 2 children: Thomas and Ruth. Tom Smith died in 1953 and his wife Clara died in 1959.



Tom Smith and wife Clara with Frank and Helen

Anthony Smith Jr married Miss Flinn and has one daughter from the first family, "Alberta".

John Smith remained a bachelor.

Walter Smith married Miss Beno and they had two sons: Fred and Gordon and an adopted daughter.

Fred Smith married Myrtle Schwerdfeger. They had three children: Charles (Chick), Stanley (Nig) and Nellie (Mrs. Max Wynn). Fred did draying in Innisfail, and bought grain for the National Grain Company for some years. He lived in Innisfail until his passing.

May Smith married Charles White. They farmed in the Horse Shoe Lake district. They had 4 children: Elsie (Whetham), Mabel (Mrs. O. Krause), Harvey and Louis.

THE ROBERT SMITH FAMILY by John and Allan Smith

Robert Smith was born in 1877 in Kitchener, Ontario. Mrs. Robert Smith was the former Mary Elizabeth Pendergast. She was born in 1877 at Carlton Place, Ontario They were married in 1900. They raised three sons and one daughter.

At the turn of the century, Robert Smith came to homestead on the Northeast quarter, Sec. 20-Twp 34, Rg 27, W4th. They first lived in a house built of logs in the Horse Shoe Lake District. The corners of the house were dove-tailed, making a very neat job — compared with the notched corners. The gap between the logs were partially closed with wedged shaped pieces, then they were plastered with grey soil mixed with cow manure. The roof consisted of split poplar saplings layed side by side from the peak to the eave. Then this was covered with straw and a layer of sods. Norman the oldest son was born in this log house.

Roberts' half brothers, Tom, Anthony and John had come out from Ontario before the arrival of Robert settling in the same district.

The log house was replaced by the frame house built by Charles McArthur. The other boys were born in this new house with Country Dr. Gilray attending.

Early neighbors were Charlie Walker, Anson Black, Duncan Mather, Harry Jacobs and George Bennett.

In the early days, Robert and Mary Smith went through some hard times as they lived thirteen miles south east of Innisfail, making the distance to town long and difficult. The cattle were delivered to Innisfail on the hoof. This would take about six hours to make the trip from home to the stock yards. We would start at three in the morning in the summer to get there before the heat or flies got too bad. We delivered mostly to Blair McMillan. It would take about four hours to make the trip to Innisfail with a load of grain with either a two or four horse string team. Dad took great pride in his horses and would never allow us to put them in an open livery shed. At one time a livery barn in Innisfail was operated by Fred Smith (Dad's brother). I recall the time we had made a trip to town and were putting our horses in this barn. Just before we arrived, a wagon with a load of oats was delivered in the driveway through the barn. This barn was floored with planks. For some

time, people had flipped nickles to decide who paid for coffee and some nickles had fallen through the crack in the floor and had actually filled the crack. In fact, Uncle Fred salvaged nearly five dollars in nickles when repairing the floor that the wagon had nearly gone through. We used to haul grain to Walter Graham of the Pioneer Elevator and also sold horsehair, baled hay and greenfeed to Ed Chute in Innisfail. We often ate our dinners at Miss Murphy's and at Hopkins. The days special would be 25c. On cold winter days it wasn't uncommon for us to walk the full distance to Innisfail behind the sleigh to keep warm.

The first machine for threshing we had was a hand fed one with no feeder. This was a joint ownership between Robert Smith and Sam Pendergast. We worked on the roads in summer to assist in paying taxes off. Robert was the foreman.



Robert and Mary Smith

Robert and Mary Smith were staunch Presbyterians. Mrs. Smith boarded the country school teachers for the Horse Shoe Lake School for years and home became a stopping house for preachers and politicians. The Smiths' bought their first car, being a Model T Touring car, in 1917. Mr. Smith one time drove his car eight miles to Clark Bennets' in low gear not knowing how to put it into high gear. Then there was the time when we bought a new binder and when we got home we learned that we were completely hailed out — so the machine was stored for next year! Robert Smith had a non complaining disposition even tho' we went through the times of low prices or hailed out.

The Robert Smith family were:

Norman-Earl: married Lottie Gunston. They had three children Naida (Mrs. Jack Mundie) Grace (Mrs. Ben Gilray) and Joy (Mrs. Allan Sparks).

Naida and Jack farm in Knee Hill Valley. Grace and Ben reside at Didsbury. Joy and Allan live on the home farm in Horse Shoe Lake. Norman took over the home place when his father discontinued farming due to ill health. Norman bought the Claud Paul place. He milked a large herd of cows and was very active in 4H work. Norman built a new house on Dad's farm, and engaged in farming until his death.

John Orville married Rebecca Powell. They farmed for seven years on his farm (formerly owned by his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. W.H. Pendergast). In 1938 they moved to Wimborne where John operated a grain elevator for Searle Grain Co. for 10 years. In 1948 he built on his farm, 2-1/2 miles north of Wimborne. Here, he farms as a limited Company with their three sons under the name of Poplar Haven Farms Ltd. John Smiths' main interest is in cattle raising and extensive grain farming. John and Becky have 5 children: Cleo (Mrs. Lee) of Lacombe; Ronald who married Ruth Lauritzen, farms at Wimborne; Donna (Mrs. Bill Bennett) is a teacher and they farm in Knee Hill Valley; Gary, who married Christine Block, farm at Wimborne. Gary has his Bachelor of Science degree in Agriculture from the University of Alberta. Robert who married Annette Frere is an A.I. technician.

John recalls the time when Bill Whealon was selling insurance and wearing heavy felt socks. Becky had a tub of snow under the table. While the men talked, Bill dangled his foot in the tub and was soaked. Later, he crossed his other knee and thus soaked the other foot. He did sell the policy, but soaked his feet to do it! John Smith is a member of the Masonic Lodge, President of Rural Electrification for Bowden, Knee Hill and Innisfail, is a supervisor in the Feeder Assn., Active in 4H, President of Fish and Game Assn. and Chairman of the United Church Board at Wimborne. Becky is a member of the O.E.S. and is active in Church work.

Allan Edgar Smith married Ethel Lockhart a teacher. They farmed in the Gordon district and later moved to the Angus Mather place, 2 miles west of the home place. He then bought the Bill Black farm northeast of Horse Shoe Lake. He farmed here until moving to Innisfail. Allan and Ethel assisted in organizing and moving the Army building to Knee Hill Valley for a community center. It was here that curling, picnics, ball games and horseshoes could be enjoyed by all. Allan also has a popular orchestra that has played for dances all over the country. Allan and Ethel have two sons: Douglas who married Marriette Milney. They are farming at Knee Hill Valley; Glenn who married Emily Ellis resides at Lacombe.

Iris who married Jim Black who lived with his parents on the farm formerly owned by Dr. Gilray. Jim and Iris farmed in the Horse Shoe Lake district where Jim did custom trucking as a side line. Later, they moved to Innisfail where Jim apprenticed to become a licensed mechanic with Frank Churchill. They then moved to Wimborne where they operated a Machine Agency for several years. They moved to

Edmonton where Jim was employed by the Dept of Highways until his death. Iris is residing in Edmonton. They have three children: Bob, who is a lab technician for Sherritt Gordon at Ft. Saskatchewan; Barbara, a teacher lives in Edmonton and Carol (Mrs. D. Gow) resides in Calgary.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Smith were born the same year and they passed away the same year (1943) and are interred in the Innisfail Cemetery.

AMOS NELSON SMITH by Annie Polson, Leslie & Russell Smith

Children: Annie (Mrs. Polson), John Leslie, Alf born 1895, Martha (Mrs. Hubert Munro), born 1898, Russell born in 1899, married Myrtle Innis. Myrtle, Rachel (Mrs. Teghmeyer) born in 1902, Joe born 1904, Bristol born in 1905, Ernest born in 1906. Half sisters: Libby, Cenie and half brother Nelson.

When a prairie fire blackened the grassland in Okotoks area Amos Smith, our Dad, was soon on the move for greener pastures. Loading what he could into a wagon, trailing a hayrake behind with Libby on a saddle horse to herd the milk cow, we children were crowded around Mothers' knees and away we headed north. Mothers' precious sewing machine was left behind. The homestead we came to was at Antler Hill where Daines now live. It was in 1894 we staked a claim on this land. Dad put up a log house of sorts with a sod roof. When Alfred was born there was not a window, a door or even a doctor. When it rained outside, it rained longer inside. Martha, Russell, Myrtle & Rachel were born here.

Father was born in 1846 in Ontario and Mother was born in 1863. Father had driven teams and worked in lumber woods in Ontario prior to his coming West. He was a farmer here and hauled coal from Knee Hill Valley. He worked on threshing units with Bill McDonald, Mr. Forbes and Phil Holden. Mr. Forbes had a portable engine with hand feed and straw carriers. Father worked at the lumber mill at Raven for Jack McInroy in 1908. Mrs. McInroy did the cooking and Mr. McGrandle was in the mill later. Our neighbors were Mr. & Mrs. Jim Barwis, A.C. Browne, Billy Champ, the McClures and in town we knew the Lauders, Conlans, W.C. Patterson and G.W. West.

As children we were barefoot in the summer and mother would make a type of footwear for us for the winter out of anything she could lay her hands on. I, Leslie didn't have a pair of boots until I was 10 years old. We children didn't come to town nor go to school as we didn't have clothes to wear for such occasions and much of the time only had half enough to eat.

There was the tragedy of premature Myrtle, born in 1899. Leslie and Annie somehow harnessed the team and hooked them to the stone boat and drove 4 miles to where Dad was working to get help for our Mother. I, Annie, remember April 15, 1900 climbing the ladder to my bed in the loft. Mother was holding Myrtle in her arms. The babys' face had a blue look. In the morning, the baby was dead. Mother prepared her for burial and she was buried in the Innisfail

Cemetery in a wooden coffin with some sort of metal on the outside of it. We cut off a piece of the metal and scratched "Myrtle" on it and it hung on our wall for years. I (Annie), was allowed to go to the funeral and remember Mrs. Varty there. Mrs. A.C. Browne stayed with the rest of the children at home.

I (Leslie) recall the treat of going to the highest point on Antler Hill. Jim Benton had a 20 foot post with climbing steps on it. There we could see all over the prairie and Innisfail.

The morning Martha was born, Dad had built a roaring fire in the range. Alf fell from a chair onto the round protruding oven knob...resulting in the loss of sight and the ability to fully close the eye lid. Mother used badger fat, wild goose grease, epsom salts, bread and milk poultices and tea from the yarrow flowers for medicines.

They moved from Antler Hill to Tindastoll with a rack. I (Leslie) drove a team and wagon back for some of our things. "I was ten years old," he remembers at that time. Here, they neighbored with Einersons, Morkebergs, Munros, Melrose' Bill Brown and could see the Dubuc lights twinkling across the flat.



Mr. and Mrs. Amos Smith

In 1906 Dad's brother, Uncle John sent a hand crafted dulcimer. It was after this that Mother seldom had a stay in her corsets. This instrument had 3 strings for notes and two strings for base and the stays were used to play it. We all remember waking up in the moonlight and hearing Dad picking out the notes.

The first real Christmas we recall was the one when we found a cookie in each of our stockings. It was indeed a joyous occasion. Another time before Christmas, Mother found that Mrs. Varty could use some wood, so she told Leslie and Alfred to chop two loads and take to Mrs. Varty. This was done and then the boys asked if they could do one load and keep the money themselves. Mother agreed. With the money we got, we bought Christmas presents for all the children — the first ones they had ever received.

Fresh meat was strung up 30 ft. high in a tree (too high for flies), some was cut in strips and dried. Pork

was salted down. Mother made her own soap. One day when she was washing she had some lye in a cup on the cupboard. Ernest was hungry and dashed ahead of her, seized the cup and swallowed the lye. Mother grabbed the cream pail and poured it down his throat. It saved his life but he lived on gruel and custards for years.

Dad bought a threshing machine (Massey Harris) for \$1,000. and an engine for \$2,000. from P.L. Grasse in 1906. Threshing machines actually broke people in the early days. When they couldn't be paid for, people often lost their land too — We only had one team left from trying to buy this. While Dad did have the engine, he broke land. Annie was supposed to get 50c a day for cooking for the crew. Joe Ferguson worked with them. They also worked at the mill on the Raven River with Jim Wilson and Logans. The logs were hauled with team and sleighs. About 12 men worked there. Leslie ran the steam engine when he was only 15 years old. Norman Kremer and Phil Holden would float lumber down the Raven to the Red Deer River and then Jim Wilson would haul the lumber to Innisfail by wagon.

In 1903, there was a terrible blizzard and a boy got lost when looking for cattle. The body was found two years later and the horse and saddle were with him.

Alfred married Jean Elliott and has lived in the Markerville district all his life. Eva married Alf Wolton and she died in 1917. Dad died August 8, 1935 and Mother June 19, 1943. They are buried at Sylvan Lake.

Mother taught us all to remember to look behind the purpose of sorrow and trouble, teaching us there was a lesson to be learned from these experiences — not to complain of work to be done, but thankful for the health to do it with.

CHARLES SMITH SR. by Charles Smith Jr.

My father was born in Scotland Oct. 18, 1882. He married Katherine Garvie (born in Ireland in 1880) in Monkland, Scotland July 19, 1902. He came to Alberta in 1912 from the U.S.A. and to Innisfail to take up farming in 1919. Dad was in the first World War from 1914 to 1918 with the Engineers in 192nd Batt.

Dad, accompanied by Harry Lions (who stayed for a while and then left) looked over different parcels of land which the Soldier Settlement Board had to offer. Mr. Lions decided on one in Little Red Deer district and threw a match down to burn off the brush. Dad gave him heck; it burnt for days. The parcel Dad took was so heavy with bush he had to clear land to get enough space to build a house on it. He built the house in 1919 and in 1920 the family moved up to the farm from Coleman.

Before the war Dad had been a coal miner. In the winter Dad would go back to the coal mines to make a grub stake for the following summer. We didn't eat too heavy — mostly potatoes and macaroni and rabbits.

We used to get so much snow we would have to shovel a trail for the horses to get to the water trough. Our family achievement was to clear and



Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Smith, Sr. on their 50th Anniversary.

break our 1/2 section. It was so cold one winter that the voices froze in the phone lines; as you went along in the spring you could hear the chitter chatter as they thawed out.

I took my schooling at Little Red Deer. The school was pretty well filled with Smiths, Leaches, Holmes, Janet Edgar, Alice Scott, Kit Robinson, Jim Davidson, Vern Baptist, Calders, Gibson boys, Testers and Campbells. We had quite a few teachers: Mrs. Jim McDonald was the first one when I went to school; Mr. Jim Law; Neil Manuel; Miss Hayes (Ethel Scarlett), then her sister Florence (Mrs. Angus McKay).

We had plenty of neighbors in those days: on the west of us was a bachelor, Chris Kidd; east was Mr. Alex Davidson Sr., who was a good neighbor and would do anything for us and would take nothing in return; and Bradshaws, Harrisons, Scraggs, Scotts, Walkers, Moffats, Testers, and Bob Phillips, better known as Rob. Nobody was any better off than the next one so we were all in the same fix just striving to make a living.

There were two gentlemen in the early days who I thought were the best farmers of the district — Hugh Brown; and Bill Miller, who was the Councillor for Poplar Grove. Dad would go to the Council meeting and give Mr. Miller heck. After the meeting, Mr. Miller would tell Dad he loved him for it.

In 1945 Dad sold the farm to Archie Davidson as we boys were all married and on our own. Dad and Mother settled at Vancouver. Mother passed away in June 1955 and Dad on New Year's day 1957; they are both buried in Bronze Memorial Garden, Vancouver, B.C.

They had eight children:

Rose Ann — married Percy Turnbull who passed away in 1936; she remarried James Ferguson and lives in Vancouver.

John — married Lizzy Davidson; live in New Westminster.

Lawrence — married Patricia Scott; live in Calgary; Lawrence was with Engineers in WW II and won the Medal of Honor.

Charles Jr. — married Eda Flessatti, who died in March 1966; remarried Mrs. Elsie Wachter; retired from the farm and living in Innisfail.

Charles and Eda had seven children: Katherine — married Dan Klingspon, have 4 children and live at Ardsoson, Alta. Frances — married James Wallace and live in Lethbridge; 2 children. Albert — married Frances Cole and lives on Charles Jr. home farm; 3 children. Bernard — married Karen Fremstead; lives in Calgary; 2 children. James — married Sharren Mick; live on farm in Gordon district; 2 children. Raymond — married Linda Palkot; live on farm in Big Bend district; 1 child. Carol Ann — married Dennis Conn of Innisfail; now live in Air-drie.

Mary — married Robert Greig; live in Bowden.

Margaret — married Warren Smith, Olds.

Peter — married Lillian Schully, Vancouver.

Bernard — married Orma Cameron, Red Cliff; Bernard was in the Airforce in WWII.

JAMES G. SMITH by Fred Garfield Smith

My father, James G. Smith was born in England and was the nephew of Sir William MacKenzie. Father was a printer by trade and it was because of the Crimean War, he emigrated to Canada. Sir W. MacKenzie gave him \$10.00 to buy a homestead.

Upon arriving in Canada he first worked on the railroad as a labourer. When he reached Alberta, he was a construction foreman and getting \$1.25 a day. He changed the tracks to a heavier steel on the C & E line in 1897. It was in 1903 that he came to Innisfail to homestead. The homestead was 1 1/2 miles north of Innisfail.

My mother was the former Matilda Jane Schell. Children born to them were: Jack, Steve, Sam, Jim (who died at 14 years) and Fred (myself). I had two sisters Margaret (Mrs. E. Greene) and Bertha (Mrs. G. Fuller).

I was born in Ontario in 1887. I attended school here in Innisfail from 1893 to 1897. My first teacher was Mabel Constantine who loved to strap and got lots of practice on me. She, at that time was receiving a salary of \$30. per mo. The seats and desks were made out of rough lumber and planks and were propped up by boxes. We used a slate and slate pencil. The school inspector of the N.W.T. at that time was Mr. McPhee who was also the Dominion Land Surveyor. We all liked to have him come as he always gave us a half day holiday. Some I attended school with were Tom, Lulu & Aileen Lauder, Gladys West, J. Simpson and Bert Varty.

When I was 14 years of age I was a bronc rider in the summer and worked in the livery stable in the winter. In 1907 I married Margaret Gray (Frank Malcolm's half sister). We raised two girls: Alma and Gladys. My wife was born in 1891 and passed away in 1964.

I was in W.W.I. as a platoon Sgt. and served in France, Belgium, England and Germany. I had the honor of receiving the Victory Medal, the General Service Medal, the Military Medal and the King George V medal.

I recall the grave yard in Innisfail was first called "Nitchi Hill", an Indian name and it was near by that many Indians lived. In fact, I had many playmates as a child that were Indian. The first cemetery was on the old Cook Homestead. Mary Coddington was the first to be buried that I remember on the Cook place and it was her father and Mr. Flanagan who took her body from there and reburied her in the cemetery we have today. My brother Jim and I helped to rebury her and the next one to be placed in the cemetery of our family was brother Jim.

I have always been a staunch Conservative and moved to British Columbia in 1937. I farmed in B.C. as well as had a store. While I was in the store business, I was postmaster, J.P. and Pool Room operator. I completely retired in 1958 to Kamloops.

CHARLES SNIDEMAN by Charlotte Snideman

Charles Snideman with his brother George set out from Santa Fe, Indiana seeking employment. They worked their way on horseback and on foot across the country, going from job to job taking about three years to reach Milk River and finding very much mud all the way. Charles arrived in the Innisfail area about 1902-03, liked the country and decided to stay, settling south of town. Houghtons, Charles Wilson and Tom Simpson were his neighbors.

On Jan. 7, 1907 he married Charlotte F. Walther in KoKomo, Indiana. We had two sons: Ward D. Snideman who married Geneva Forester and Elbert W. Snideman who married Masie Hall.

We built a log house, building on as new babies arrived. Charles killed wild animals, hiding the meat as it was mostly killed out of season, and one could only salt down so much. I made butter and traded it for groceries; if any money was left over I would buy material to make clothes.

Several times we had chimney fires and Tom Simpson would come immediately to help. Once his horse was very ill with a fever and I gave her a drink; when



Mrs. Chas. Snideman and Ward.

she died, I was accused of poisoning her. I learned to shoot after I came to this country. I would go to visit Houghton's with Elbert and Ward in a carriage, and the gun. If I happened to see any wild game, mostly prairie chickens, on the way, we would have meat for supper. We also had a pet pig and he would follow along behind like a dog. Mr. Snideman and I would also go out hunting rabbits together. They were very thick and we would feed them to the chickens.

Once the dogs chased a wounded coyote into the cow barn and I shot it twice. We sent the hide to the States and had it made into a robe which we sold for \$7.00. I would ride over ten miles on the saddle horse with Ward behind me and carrying ten to fifteen pounds of butter on my arm to the store to trade for groceries. The only time we ever saw any real money was when Charles went out to work. He would go to the south country and to Saskatchewan at harvest time.

We had to make our own amusements, or we had none. Charlie Wilson, Mrs. David Walker, Fredricksons, Fagans, would visit us every Sunday. We retired into Innisfail in 1924. Charlie died Nov. 26, 1932.

THE SNIDER STORY by Mabel Bertrand

Edwin Soloman Snider, born 1865 at Harrow, Ont., first studied for the ministry, but changed his mind and went to Colorado where he got his steam engine papers and worked on the railroad. In 1892, he married Minnie Louise Ferriss (born 1873 at Harrow). They were both descendants of Empire Loyalists.

Children:

Ida born 1893 (Harrow) m. Baker.

Joseph born 1894 (Toledo) died Vimy Ridge 1918, 89th Battalion.

Herman born 1897 (Dufur) m. Ethel Lobb then m. Frances McKnight.

Mabel born 1900 (Dufur) m. John Bertrand (d. 1964) 6 children; lives in Innisfail.

Orville born 1904 (Innisfail) m. Connie Cossins — 1 daughter then m. Beatrice Wilson — 1 daughter; lives at Red Deer.



Mr. Chas Snideman

Pat born 1908 (Innisfail) m. Clara Hokanson; 3 children.

Minnie born 1910 (Innisfail) m. Alfred Comer; 8 children; lives in Red Deer.

Huldah born 1912 (Innisfail) m. Niel McPhee; 6 children; lives in Red Deer.

In 1895 they moved to Oregon where Mr. Snider settled on a heavily timbered homestead. He had a sawmill — operated by horses walking in a circle — and began farming as the land was cleared. Mother remembers the women there made baking powder biscuits and flour gravy for every meal. The Oregon climate proved too damp for Dad's asthma, and since they knew the A. Fords and Mrs. Brush, they decided to move to Alberta. In March 1903 they sold out for \$1000, bringing only a few beds and the sewing machine with them to Innisfail. The family stayed three weeks at Herb Brushes' farm, then rented Fileman Reno's log house until buying the old Jim Cameron half-section from A. Goldstrom (now owned by H. Parcels). Dad sowed 40 acres, broadcasting the seed by hand. Mr. Goldstrom let us have eight cows to milk on shares, each getting half the calves and half the cream the first year. After a few years, we had a good herd of our own. The cream was skimmed from the milk and churned using a hand-made lid and dasher. Pound prints of butter were taken to Mr. Songhurst's store to exchange for groceries. Later, when we traded at G.W. West's store, he always put a bag of candy with the order — we children were really overjoyed as that's all the candy we got.



Mr. and Mrs. E. Snider, 1915.

The first Christmas, my parents were too poor to buy us any presents; Mrs. Goldstrom a very dear and kindly person, found out and sent a gift for each of us.

Our house had four rooms; the floors were bare boards scrubbed white, the front room was calsomined, and the kitchen walls were papered each year with farm papers such as "Farmer's Advocate". I remember putting cans to catch the drips when it rained and in the winter the windows were so thick with frost you couldn't see out. Mother was always busy at her stove baking bread or canning wild fruit for winter use — it had four lids on top, an oven on each side and a hearth on the front. She baked and



Back row: Mabel, Pat, Ida, Orville, Minnie, Herman; Front row: Mr. Snider, Huldah, Mrs. Snider.

sewed for bachelors of the district — Mert Caldwell, Mr. Thune, Jack Coulthwaite, and Geo. Dalzell. We ate many rabbits, partridge, prairie chicken and wild ducks, but salt pork was a staple food.

Recreation in the early days was visiting each other; the highlights of the year were the Christmas concert and the picnic — held first at the Hornet place and later on the Goldstrom farm. Homemade lemonade and ice-cream each sold for 5 cents. The men took turns cranking the freezer and Monty Baker supplied the ice.

Ida, Joe, Herman, Orville and myself walked nearly three miles to the Hill End log school.

In the fall of 1912, we moved to the Gordon Reno farm, which Dad bought as well as the CPR quarter cornering it across the road. Herman did the housework aided by our helpful neighbors, Mrs. Songhurst, Mrs. Ford, and Mrs. Edna Cameron, when Mother gave birth to Huldah and I was sick with pneumonia at the same time. The Clarendon School was built in 1913 with Mr. John MacDonald, the first teacher. Orville and I were caretakers for awhile getting \$1.50 a month for making fires and cleaning it. Some mornings it was so cold we could hardly light a fire. We hauled water and scrubbed once a month. Joe dug the well and cribbed it up for \$1.50 a foot. Dad served a term as trustee on the school board, and the boys helped clear the land.

My brothers trapped muskrats, weasels, and coyotes for spending money; each bought a violin and after much squeaking and screeching, finally learned to play. It was all the music we had until Dad bought a gramophone in 1917. Dad and Mother had a store and Post Office from 1918 to 1928; once cars became 'in', the store was no longer needed.

Herman and I had our first experience with burning coal when Mother and Dad took a trip to Ontario in December 1917 and left us in charge of the farm. Herman sold a load of grain for some coal and we poured the stove full — it smouldered all day — we filled it up again at supper and bedtime — and still the bread I'd put in to bake that morning was white. By noon the next day, it was browned and

cooked with a crust an inch thick, but we ate it. We finally mastered the art of burning coal.

One story I recall, was the Hallowe'en night just before the war that the boys painted Benny. He was a little pony owned by a widow. She didn't want any of the young fellows calling on her daughter; so that night a bunch got together and painted Benny with red and green stripes and a few dots. What a sight he was! Next day the storm broke! The widow sent word around that someone better come quick and make restitution, or else. Dad and Mr. Songhurst called on her and bought the pony at her price. They tossed a coin to see who would own him. Dad got him, bought Mr. Songhurst's share, and we became the proud owners of Benny. Having paid quite a price for him, Dad decided we had to make use of him, so we drove him everywhere alongside a much larger horse. We were glad when he shed his hair as it was embarrassing as people stared, laughed, and made many funny remarks. He was quite a conversation piece.

Dad and Mother sold out and moved to Innisfail in 1930; two years later they moved to a farm ten miles east of town. In July 1933, we had a family re-union and Dad died in September at the age of 60. Mother and Pat farmed until he joined the RCAF in 1943 and Mother moved to Red Deer where she resided until her death in September of 1953 at the age of 80.

SONGHURST FAMILY by Mrs. Edith Cooke

Leonard Hornett, whom Mr. Songhurst had met in England, had already settled on a homestead north east of Innisfail and had written descriptive articles for a small English Newspaper. It was these articles that influenced him to come to Innisfail. To be able to get a quarter section for \$10 appeared very attractive.

My Father, Edwin Songhurst, was born in Eisborough Green, Sussex, England in 1860. He came to Innisfail by ship, railway and hayrack. The ocean trip to Montreal was most enjoyable, but the train trip to Calgary was very trying. They put up at a hotel in Calgary just north of where the Palliser now stands. Calgary was very small, with a few large old-fashioned buildings and wooden sidewalks. Cows and donkeys were tethered just west of where the Palliser Hotel now stands. Mrs. Songhurst stayed at the Hotel while Mr. Songhurst went north to select a homestead. A ten day period passed and no word had come from him. He was to have wired when he got to Innisfail. Mrs. Songhurst was sure he had come to harm. However, in due time he arrived back in a hayrack accompanied by Horace Meeres (from the Hill End District). After purchasing supplies, the family (his wife Sarah, 3 children: Frank (4 yrs.) Florence (who had her 2nd birthday on board ship) and Bert (aged 8 months) left in the hay rack for Innisfail.

Mr. Songhurst apprenticed 7 years in London, England to become a grocer. Prior to coming to Canada, he owned a grocery store in Arlesey, Bedfordshire and also had the agency for Gilbeys. They arrived in Innisfail September, 1894. They took up a homestead in the Hill End District. Mr. Songhurst

had the Hill End Post office and kept a general store and was Commissioner-for-Oaths and Registrar of Vital Statistics. He hauled the supplies for the store and mail from Innisfail by wagon in the summer and sleigh in the winter. He made the 12 mile trip twice a week, dealing in Innisfail with Jesse Stewart, G.W. West, J. Fumertons, W. Geary and G.A. Smith. He was secretary of schools for a continuous term of 40 years — starting as secretary of Hill End School in 1895. (He held that position until 1915.)

Clarendon school was built in 1912. He was made secretary of the new school and continued as secretary until 1935.

They lived in the sod roofed, dirt floored log shack until about 1900. It was extremely cold in winter. Mrs. Songhurst related stories of the baby's porridge freezing on the plate if not eaten quickly. She often did her mending by the light from burning wood in front of an open stove door. Coal oil was expensive and had to be conserved.

They lived for a short time in a dug out on the Hornett farm, and then settled on a farm 2 miles east. This quarter didn't appear productive so they took up a homestead to the south of the quarter now owned by their grandson Syd Quartly. They lived there until retiring to Innisfail in 1928.

They brought clothing from England which had to last a number of years. Little food was bought but they lived well on what they produced. Mr. Songhurst was a good shot, so was able to get plenty of game in the fall and rabbits in the winter. In the summer he went to Pine Lake for fish. Wild fruit was plentiful. Huge quantities of saskatoons were canned and also dried to use in cakes instead of raisins. Mrs. Songhurst taught the Hill End School from 1896 to 1899 to help buy cattle and other much needed farm supplies. This was a log schoolhouse on the N.E. of 12 built in 1893.

Mrs. Songhurst was the former Sarah Harrow. She was born and educated in London, England and a graduate of Hocker Hill College, Bishop Stortford. She went to teach in Stevenage, Hertfordshire where she met Mr. Songhurst. They were married in 1889 at St. Mary Magdalene Church, Southwark, London, England.



The Songhurst Family

There were 8 children born of this union: Frank (Victoria, B.C.), Chris of Spokane, Wash., Edith (Mrs. Ralph Cooke of Calgary and formerly Mrs. Hursleigh Moore, Catherine (Mrs. W.J. White of Lethbridge) Deceased Florence (Mrs. John Quartley — interment Innisfail Cemetery. Deceased Caroline — interment Innisfail Cemetery. Deceased Sydney — interment near Givenchy, France and Deceased Herbert — interment Pocatello, Idaho.

Early neighbors were: Thomas Wells, Thomas Eastman, Leonard & Sam Hornett, Brushes, Bechervases, Couthwaites, Tiffers, Lees, Ernest & Edward Hills, Horace Meeres, Gordon Healy, Tom Day, Bob Niblocks, Partingtons and DeWiltons. Later neighbors in the Clarendon district were: Arthur, Ted and Monty Baker, Pomeroy's, Langevins, Jack Gelatly, Goldstroms, Sniders, Fords, Higgs, LaMarshs, Marshalls, Robinsons, Rickards and Biltons.

The first three teachers of Clarendon school were E. McDonald, Frances Stewart and Elmer Drennon and they all boarded at Songhursts. Miss Stewart was musical as was the Hill End Teacher Ada Dale. Many happy evenings were spent around the piano. Other forms of recreation were in winter sleigh riding, tobogganning, skating on the sloughs, box socials, cards and school dances. In summer there was little spare time, but an occasional game of cricket and picnics were held.

I (Edith) attended Clarendon School, Innisfail High School and Calgary Normal School. My closest friends were Phyllis Wade and Dorothea Delong. Teachers in the Innisfail High School in the early 1920's were Mrs. H. Hodge, Mr. A. Reeves, Mr. O'Meara, Mr. Law and Miss Lawrence.

I recall Jesse Stewart, G.W. West, W. Geary, G.A. Smith, Hodge's being in business and Mr. Oldham who was Mayor of Innisfail and had a business office — and Doc Landet the district Veterinarian.

Frank & Syd Songhurst enlisted in 1915 and served in French warfare in many of the major battles in France. Frank was wounded twice in 1916 at the Somme and in 1918 at Cambrai. Syd was killed at Vimy Ridge on April 9th, 1917 while serving with the 102 Battalion. Bert Songhurst who had immigrated to the U.S.A. in 1912 joined the American Army and was stationed in the Philippine Islands.

Edwin Songhurst died Sept. 10, 1942 — interment Innisfail Cemetery.

Sarah Songhurst died Sept. 20, 1953. Interment Innisfail Cemetery.

NORMAN SPARKS STORY by Gordon Sparks

My grandfather, John Sparks, and his wife arrived in Innisfail in 1898 with their family: Truman, Norman, Artley, Bert, Clara (Mrs. Tom Smith) and Edie (Mrs. Geo. Thurston). Two other children remained in Ontario.

Norman Sparks (my father) married Ellen Rebecca (Nellie) Perry in 1908. I was their only son, born in 1912. Dad was a school trustee, councillor of the M.D. of Arthur for many years.

Our house and barn were built by Mr. Randall. I attended school at Calder. I recall the first car was an



The Sparks Family Standing, L. to R.: Leroy, Hartley, George Thurston, Norman, Kenneth, Wes Hicks; seated, L. to R.: Lisa (Mrs. Leroy), John Sparks, Truman, Ladie, Clara, Mrs. John, Bert, Elizabeth (Hicks).

Overland, which I bought from C. McMullan. I cut brush to pay for it.

Dad passed away in 1931 and Mother and I farmed for a couple of years. She decided to return to Ontario in 1934 and remarried there. She died in 1940.

I married Jessie Neithal in 1934. She was a school teacher and taught at Calder. She had 33 pupils from grades 1-11. Jessie and I decided to come to Innisfail and went into the Machinery business. Jessie was bookkeeper and office manager. We later went into Machinery repair business and built an elevator for fertilizer. I became associated with the Lions club (Past President), Master of the Masonic Lodge, and a member of the O.E.S. Jessie was a Past Matron of the O.E.S. I served on the town council and the Memorial Society. Jessie Sparks passed away February 10, 1967.

I later married Hilda Maxon and have sold some of my business interests and we enjoy spending our winters in California, Florida and Hawaii.

TRUMAN HALL SPARKS written by Robert Sparks

Truman Hall Sparks came to Innisfail in 1898 with his father, John Southwood Sparks, and his brothers Norman and Harkley. The family originally came from England and settled in Ontario. Truman was born in Guelph, Ontario in 1881. The father and brothers had farmed in Ontario before coming to Innisfail by rail and by team and wagon to their homesteads. They all homesteaded on the same section, Truman settling on NW 22-35-26-4. Truman and Norman spent the first two winters up in a logging camp at Golden, B.C. and then worked on their homesteads for the rest of the year.

Some of the early pioneers they knew in their district were George and John Thurston, Tom Smith, the Hibberts, and Jim Layden. There was a jog in the road of about a quarter mile on account of the Ellis Flat (which at this time was all water). At the north end of this road lived a neighbor by the name of Mert Caldwell. He had a few cattle as did Truman, but

Truman didn't have a bull. One evening Truman had to take a cow up to Caldwell to get her bred and by the time he was starting for home it was getting dark. Tom Lauder was bringing in a bunch of horses from the West for X.Y. Jones. Instead of turning south as they were supposed to do, the horses turned north. Tom was going as hard as his horse could run trying to head them off. The horse he was riding jumped over something on the road. Tom thought it was one of the horses that had fallen down. Instead he had run over Truman and his cow. Tom didn't know what he had done until a couple of weeks later.

Truman built a log house, and a log barn, and the cost was small. This was because the neighbors would all come and help put up a house or a barn. Nearly all the food the family grew or was home-made. There was home-made bread and butter, large gardens, hens and eggs. The main things they had to buy were sugar and flour.

My Dad married Alice Ester Meyers in 1905. She was born in 1881 in Michigan and came to Canada in about 1903. My parents raised four children:

Percy Sparks born in 1906. He married Freda Blenkhorn in 1929.

Mary Sparks was born in 1907 and married Sven Reeves in 1927. They live at Mission City, B.C. Ethel Sparks was born in 1908 and married Victor Blenkhorn in 1929. They reside in California.

Robert Sparks was born in 1910 and married Barbara Becker in 1938. We have retired from the farm into Innisfail.

Some of the first neighbors I remember were John and William Calvert and their families, and there was the Jim Guard Family, the George Kirkham family, Charlie Conners, George Palmer, Ellis family, and the Blake family.

In remembering the early days, I recall the time when there was a particularly bad hail storm, some time before I had started school. The hail seemed like golf balls and seemed twice as hard. Percy and the girls had just got home from school when the storm hit. Mother put us down in the cellar and the hail broke windows and killed a lot of chickens. Then

too, we had a really bad snow storm in the spring of 1919 in May. Dad had taken us to school in the old Model T. Ford, but had to take the team and sleigh to get us home. By night there was two feet of snow and it stayed for two weeks.

In 1918, Dad bought a half-section of land from George Blake. Dad cleared this with an axe and piled it by hand. 1922 was a really dry year; it got so dry that we hauled water from the well and threw it on the pigs so they could hold their morning feed. In 1923, we moved up on the hill of this half-section. This is still the home place of Sparks Farms Ltd. and the third generation is farming it today. In the summer we would have little stampedes, fish in the creek, and play baseball all summer. Some of the ones I played ball with were Stan & Gordon Guard, Norman, Allan & Gordon Layden, Harold and Spence Thurston, and Clint McMullan. In winter we would skate — we would find some ice on a slough or creek, shovel off the snow, then clamp on a pair of skates to our work boots and go — no fire, no shelter, so we had to skate to keep warm. About the first of November it was time to get ready for the Christmas concert. This was something that everyone looked forward to; they were held in the school with the play and program starting about 8 p.m. and lasting until midnight. After this a lunch would be served and then the floor would be cleared for a dance, lasting until 3 or 4 in the morning. The play that stands out most in my memory was the one put on in 1928 called "Antics of Andrew". I had 56 pages to memorize. Pauline & Gilbert Scott, George and Annie Sherwood, Mrs. Bill Thurston, Gordon & Jessie Sparks were in it too.

A big time was always had by all who attended from near and far the Friday night dances. The dance would start about 8:30 and you would dance until 3:30 a.m. The fee would be 25c and this included lunch.

I (Robert Sparks) took my schooling at Calder starting in 1917. Miss Meano was my first teacher. Later I had Miss Hope and then Tom Cole. I remember Miss Meano would take a willow stick to the naughty children and she would always start on the smallest ones first, so when she got to the bigger students she was worn out and couldn't do much to them. Miss Alma Whealon taught Calder for five years. We would walk 2 1/2 miles to school and back home again at night — not like the warm buses the students have today.

We used to come to Innisfail about once a month travelling with a team and democrat. The people I remember best were G.W. West, Ed Dodd, Drs. Wagner and Carscallen.

Because of our location, people with their teams had to drive through our yard to one mile north of Calder School. There could be as many as 25 teams in a short while and we children would race to open the gate — the reason being that many of these folks would throw a bag of candy to the kid that opened the gate.

We had many barn dances. They started in 1926 and the reason was that we had erected a new barn 40



Mary and Ethel; Bob, Truman and Percy Sparks.

x 60 at the time — and by having completed this building it just mean't a dance. The first summer we had four dances. People came from near and far from the surrounding districts and from the towns all around too. There always had to be a reason for a barn dance, and so the Ladies' Club, or the Sports Clubs would sponsor dances here. We would have the best old time orchestra anyone could get — people named Brandt from Markerville. There were many times when there would be over 200 people for a dance. Today we have 800 hogs in this building.

My wife and I raised a family of four. Roy, who married Jeanette Quartly; they have 2 girls, Arlene and Fay, and a son Dwayne. They are living on the home place. Allan is the second son. He married Joyce Smith and they live in the Horseshoe Lake area with their two sons Lee and Wayne and daughter Carolyn. Our only daughter, Sharon, (Mrs. Dave Fisher) lives in Regina. Norman married Sandra Renfrew; they have two sons, Shane & Trevor and live near the home place. My mother, Alcie, died in Jan. 21, 1929; my Father, Truman, died March 29, 1969.

CHARLIE SPRINGGAY by Mrs. Gladys Klatt

Charlie Springgay was born in Hamilton, Ontario Oct. 19, 1871. He came to this district in 1887 at the age of 16. He came out with William Gunston. Mr. Gunston was bringing out a car with cattle in it and he asked my Dad if he would come with him and take care of the cattle. He would pay his way. They came to Calgary by train, then with team and wagon to Innisfail, then known as Poplar Grove. G.W. West's was the only store there and they sold most everything one would need in it.

In 1891 Dads' folks (two sisters and four brothers) came out. They lived on the farm where Alex & Fred McLean and their sister Mabel now live. Dad homesteaded a 1/4 of land. This was later owned by Charlie Gunston. Dad used to haul the cream from around Knee Hill Valley to Innisfail. There were more trails than roads and he would often get stuck in a mud hole. He would then have to unload all the cream cans (full of cream), get the wagon out, and reload his wagon. Sometimes this would happen two or three times. He also had a big steam threshing machine.

In 1901 he married Maud Tams. She was the daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Wm Tams who came from London, England in 1891. I was born in 1902. In 1903, Dad bought the farm where one of his grandsons (Jim Klatt) now farms. It was also in 1903 that his father George Springgay passed away being buried in Innisfail. In 1904 Dad's mother, brothers and sisters moved back to Ontario and this same year a son was born (George Springgay). Dad moved his family to Kimberly, B.C. in 1905 where he worked in a logging mill. He returned to his farm here again in 1911. They didn't have much land under cultivation in those days. They had to walk when they did their plowing, harrowing and sometimes when seeding. In the summer he would clear more land with an axe. We would churn cream into butter, put it in one pound molds and take it and eggs to Innisfail to trade

for groceries at G.W. West's store. West's also had a butcher shop in the store and we would kill a pig or beef and take the price of it out in meat. We had no way of keeping much meat at a time. When we did kill a pig for our own personal use we would have to rub it with salt two or three times. We would then put it in a barrel with more salt to keep the flies from it. The salt would preserve the meat. About the only fruit we would get would be the wild fruit one could pick. Everyone had lots of rhubarb.

We used to have very cold winters and lots of snow. Many times it would be 60 below. In the winter Dad would cut cord wood and sell it to the old Power House in Innisfail. Dad farmed until 1942 when he retired to Innisfail. He passed away Dec. 28, 1953 at the age of 82.

My brother George and I got our schooling in the Aberdeen School. Our teachers were Miss Lillian Fry (Mrs. John Durham), Miss Lucy Morton, Miss Alma Center and a Miss Shanks. When we started school in 1911 those attending with us were Sadie and Florence Center, Bert, Charlie and Elizabeth Lalor, Francis Laing, Agnes Moffat, Louella Center, Helen, Hazel & Frank Hovey, Bert, George, Ray & Don Malcolm, May, Jack & Frank Tams. We had three miles to walk to school. It was later that we had a pony to ride.



Mrs. Springgay and daughter Gladys in 1903.

In January 19, 1923 I married Henry Klatt. We had seven children:

Isobel (Mrs. Ball of Edmonton), Roy (m. Darlene Lightbound and they live in Red Deer), Clarence (m. Irene Cartwright and they live in Caroline), Amy (Mrs. Bob Dial of Innisfail), Jim (m. Joan Peterson and they live on the homestead of Springgays), Stan married Gloria Roberts and lives at Penhold) and Iris (Mrs. Clark) of Trenton.

In the spring of 1923 my brother George went to the States. In the war he joined the navy and was taken prisoner of war by the Japanese at Pearl Harbor. Upon his release he was very ill and passed away shortly after returning to San Diego, Calif.

The way people used to travel was with horses and wagon — bobsleighs in the winter. Everyone seemed to visit more in those days. We would think nothing of driving eight miles on Xmas day to be with relatives — even if going and coming meant nearly freezing.

Threshing time meant all the neighbors would come and help and vice versa. In the summer all would work on the roads with horses and fresnals. They could work their school taxes off in those days. If you worked longer than this, you could be paid for the work.

In the winter my brother and I would trap muskrats and would get ten cents per pelt. We made as much as \$2.00 at Christmas — and we really thought we were rich.

I remember the terrible snow storm in 1919. It started with a nice morning. Dad had gone to town with the team and wagon. When he got home at 2 o'clock the snow was pushing in front of the wagon. It was so deep that the next day when Dad went to the barn he had to take a rope and fasten it to the house and then at the barn when he got there so that he could find his way back. Farmers lost a lot of cattle as so many were out on the ranges at this time.

JOHN STADELBAUER by Maud E. Rogers

My father was born in Hanover, Ontario on April 15, 1872. His father ran a sawmill there and dad became a steam engineer gaining practical experience in the mill. Just prior to coming west, dad worked for a time in Daniel Knechtel's furniture factory. His younger brother, Simon, preceded him west, becoming a C.P.R. Engineer in 1900 and retired 42 years later. Dad homesteaded in the Mayton district near his aunt and uncle, the Valentine Schafers. He worked part-time bridge-building in the Red Deer area under a foreman he spoke of as 'Content', the man for whom the bridge across the Red Deer River east of Alix is named. He was part of the crew who built the first wooden bridge across the Red Deer River west of Innisfail.

On May 22, 1907 John Stadelbauer married Mabel Florence Townsend, who had come to the Innisfail district in 1901 with her parents, Henry and Bessie Townsend and two sisters — Flossie (Mrs. Ross Dalgetty) and Mary (Mrs. Otis Herron) and a foster brother George. John and Mabel's children were:

Bessie Marie, born Sept. 25, 1909; deceased at 6 months of age.

Maud Esther — Mrs. Reuben J. Rogers of Devon, Alberta.

Mildred Naomi — Mrs. Howard Lachman of Cochrane, Alberta.

Our early neighbors were the Flinns, Boettgers, Eichmeiers, Ocheltrees, Schafers, Cummins, and Lewis'.



John Stadelbauer

I remember one day when Mildred and I watched a miniature cyclone. Approximately three hundred yards from the house, across the fence on neighbors' land stood a small shack with a metal roof-jack, a haystack and a hay rake. A sudden summer storm struck the area leaving a few hailstones as big as cups. The whirlwind struck the shack, scattering it and the haystack to the winds, twisting the hay rake beyond repair and leaving the roof jack sitting on the ground where the shack had been.

The Stadelbauers were charter members of the Missionary Church which held services in the May City school for many years. Dad and Mother retired to Didsbury in 1935. Dad died April 14, 1941; mother died December 1, 1947; both buried in the community cemetery at Mayton.

TOM STANWAY by Harry & Herb Stanway

Tom Stanway was born in Herfordshire, England in 1876. He received his education in England and went to work for Lloyds' Bank for a salary of \$120. per year.

He came to Canada in 1895 in search of a homestead. He homesteaded in the Knee Hill Valley district east of Innisfail. Some of his early neighbors were J. Hewitt and sons, Archie Hoar, Gus Roper, Mr. Kirkup and Jenny; Charles Holt and sons and the Pollocks.

He went to work in Innisfail for Blair McMillan driving livery and mail to Knee Hill Valley in 1902-03.

Tom Stanway and Sarah Amelia Holden were married in Innisfail in 1902. (see Holden story).

In 1906 the family moved to Innisfail where Tom worked for Currie & Constantine for a while and from there went to work for G.W. West. In 1908 we moved to Aberdeen to Sid Holdens' homestead. He was our grandfather and had the Bill Wade place. From here, Dad travelled back and forth to work at Wests'.

In 1911 Tom Stanway went to work for the Western General Electric Company in Red Deer. He was the one who put the power and lights in Innisfail

in 1911. His salary in 1912 was \$1.10 for a ten hour day. He remained with the Power Company until his retirement in 1948.

There were three children: Henry Edgar (Harry), born in 1903 at Knee Hill Valley. He married Vivian Ducklos and resides in Calgary. Harry was an engineer for the C.P.R. and when he was on the passenger train between Calgary and Edmonton. Freddie George was the mail man on the train.

Herbert Griffin (Herb) was born in 1905 at Knee Hill Valley. He married Doris Joyce Vice. Herb was a C.P.R. engineer and they reside in Calgary.

Edythe Mary Stanway was born in 1907 in Innisfail. She married W.E. Frost of Calgary. She was one of the first Girl Guides in Alberta.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Stanway are buried in Red Deer and Mrs. Frost is buried in Calgary.

STEPHAN GUDMUNDSON STEPHANSON by Rosa S. Benediktson

My father, Stephan Stephanson, was born in Skagafjord, Iceland on Oct. 3, 1853, and emigrated in 1873 with his parents to Wisconsin. He was married there in Aug. 28, 1878 to Helga Sigfridur Johnson who was born in Iceland on July 3, 1859. In 1880 both families moved to North Dakota. In 1889, with his mother, Mrs. Gudberg Hannendoter Stephanson, his sister Mrs. C. Christianson, and his family, he moved with other Icelanders to Alberta and homesteaded in the Hola district, three miles north of Markerville.

My father was always a farmer; outside work was necessary to provide cash income and he worked on ranches in the Calgary district and on survey gangs on the Calgary and Edmonton railway. One often wonders how large families did manage to survive in those early years. Livestock raising was the chief industry, and most everyone had a flock of sheep as well as cattle. The women spun and knit the wool into warm garments for the family and also knit socks and mitts to trade for merchandise in the local stores. After the arduous task of clearing and breaking the land, the first grain crops were harvested by hand and threshed with a flail. The fish in the rivers and lakes

in the Spring were a great asset. The men would go to Sylvan Lake and fish all night, and bring home wagon loads of fish which were dried for later use.

My father was endowed with a great poetic gift, which he pursued in any spare moments he had and at night when his labours were finished. He published six volumes of poems and four of letters and prose, written exclusively in Icelandic, although he was proficient in English. Only a small number of his poems have been translated into English. His first poetry was written in 1868, when he was 15 years old. The prairies, foothills, Rockies and pioneer life in Western Canada were among his favorite themes.

My father died on August 10, 1927 and was buried in the family plot on the bank of the Medicine River. On September 4, 1950, there was a dedication and unveiling of a memorial erected by the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada in the small Provincial Park known as Stephan G. Stephanson Memorial Park directly across the Medicine River from the village of Markerville. It was the first Provincial Park established to honor the memory of an outstanding cultural leader.

I attended Hola School. My first teacher was Miss Daly. Like most of the other children in the settlement, I only understood two words in English the day I started — namely 'yes' and 'no'. There was no High School closer than Innisfail, so I quit school after completing Grade 9. Some of the other children went into Innisfail to work and board and attend High School.

The Annual Icelandic Picnic was a popular event for a number of years, first celebrated on Aug. 2nd and later on June 17th. There would be a programme of speeches and music, followed by sports and a dance in the evening. Mr. West was guest speaker one year and I was impressed by the compliment he paid to the old Icelandic settlers whom he dealt with in those early years of merchandising.

Helga Stephanson died on Dec. 12, 1940. Helga's and Stephan's children were:

Baldur — married Lena Bardal Dec. 5, 1905; farmer in the Markerville district until death in 1949.

Gudmundur (Mundi) — married Regina Strong in 1904; merchant in Markerville, died in Red Deer in 1947.

Jon — died in North Dakota in 1887.

Jacob — farmer in Markerville district. Died on Mar. 21, 1958. Twins: Jony (Jennie) — married S.K. Sigurdson in 1922; died in 1969.

Stephany (Fanny) — married A.B. Bardal May 5, 1917; died in 1940.

Gestur Cecil — died July 16, 1909; killed by lightning when 16 years old.

Rosa Siglang — married S. V. Benediktson on June 17, 1928. Lives in Red Deer.

JAMES STEPHEN by J.F. Stephen

My father James Stephen was born in Aberdeen Scotland in 1885. He and his brother were stone masons and had a contracting firm. They brought a large crew of workmen from Scotland to Chicago



Stephen Stephanson

each year and worked re-building that city after it was destroyed by the big fire. They worked from spring to fall and returned each winter to Scotland.

Dad came to Calgary in 1885 and homesteaded at Midnapore. He erected quite a number of sandstone buildings in Calgary in the ensuing years. What is now known as 8th Avenue was known then as Stephen's avenue being named after him.

He froze his hands about this time and all fingers and both thumbs were amputated. He came to Innisfail about 1910 to visit with Mr. & Mrs. John Brown of Little Red Deer. He married Jessie Levick (Mrs. Browns' sister) and never left the area. He built a house on the John Brown farm and here two sons James and John were born in 1911 and 1916 respectively.

Apparently the house he built on John Browns' land he didn't have the title to that parcel on which the house was situated. About 1920 John Brown sold the farm to Mr. Ike Gibson who immediately laid claim to the Stephen house and its contents. As a result we had to move and abandon the house. Several neighbors (including Tom Duncan) arrived with teams and wagons and moved us into Innisfail before Mr. Gibson got up one morning.



Jim and Jack Stephen

We lived for a number of years in the little house on the main street immediately west of Frank Pearce and across the street from the old Baptist church. Some years later we bought the Bill Corish house a few doors west of the old school and lived there until about 1940.

Dad worked as janitor of the school from about 1920 until about 1935 when he retired.

Dad (James Stephen) passed away in 1938 and Mother (Jessie Stephen) passed away in 1941. Both are buried in the Innisfail cemetery. Both sons Jim and Jack received their schooling at the Innisfail school and graduated from Grade 12. Jim went to work in the Royal Bank in Innisfail when he was 16 years old. He never did anything else (other than 2 or

3 years spent overseas with the Artillery during the war). He retired in Quesnel, B.C. after 44 years service with the bank in 1971 and still lives there. He married Mildred Montgomery of Innisfail about 1939. They never had any children.

I, Jack graduated from school in 1933 and worked for Dave Brown and later Ivan Hay in the old Regal Service Station across from the hotel. Then I Jack worked for the Imperial Oil agent for a time and went to Calgary in 1936 and was also in the oil business there.

I married Shirley Anderson in 1939 and moved to Coronation, Alta. and operated a hardware store and funeral home. We moved back to Innisfail in October of 1944 and operated the Funeral Home there until 1947 when we moved to New Westminster, B.C. I retired from the Funeral Business in 1969 and am now living in Langley, B.C. We have two children Doug (Salt Lake City, Utah) and Wendy attending school at Ft. Langley, B.C.

JOSEPH STEPHENSON by Myrtle Stephenson

Joseph Stephenson and Gudrun Messiana Josiassardotter were both born in Iceland, emigrated to Canada shortly before 1885 where they met in Winnipeg and were married. They, along with their two eldest children, came in 1889 to the Tindastoll district with other Icelanders from North Dakota. Joseph Stephenson originally trained as a goldsmith in Iceland. He worked in lumber camps in Wisconsin and North Dakota before homesteading in Tindastoll. His wife worked in a steam laundry in Winnipeg for almost two years just to pay for her and her mother's passage from Iceland to Canada.

They raised eight children: Margaret (Mrs. G. E. Johnson); Stephanina (died in 1971); Josephine (Mrs. Cyr); Cicelia (Mrs. Wilson), died in 1924; Einar - married Myrtle Scott (nee' Champ) he passed away in 1965; Lily - passed away in 1970; Erlene; and Clara.



Mr. and Mrs. Einar Stephenson with Betty, Bill, Margaret and Lloyd.

Early neighbors were the Johann Bjornsons, Sigfus Goodmans and Gunnar Johannsons.

They experienced many of the freak storms of the homestead era and escaped several prairie fires. Once Joseph chased a grizzly bear from the family home with a pitchfork. The entire family were educated to the financial limit of the household and as well were taught by their parents to read and write the Icelandic language, which they spoke until entering the public school system.

Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Stephenson farmed until 1920 when they moved to Victoria, B.C. where they resided until their deaths in 1947 and 1948 respectively.

Their son, Einar Stephenson, after attending the Olds School of Agriculture, settled in the Pine Hill district where he farmed until 1948 when he retired to Red Deer. He was one of the early farmers to set up a large scale hog and cattle operation.

ALLISON STEVENETT by Frank D. Stevenett

Allison Stevenett was born April 28, 1871 at Frieston, Caythorpe, Lincolnshire, England. My mother, the former Rachel Heslam, was born Nov. 3rd, 1864 at Carlton Lee Moorland, Lincolnshire, England.

Dad was raised a farmer and followed that pattern until retirement. It was from Tabor, Iowa that the family arrived in Innisfail March 7th, 1905. It was partly on account of mothers' health and a change from growing corn that brought them here. My Mother, Frank (me), Ada and John accompanied him. The train that we came on consisted of about 30 cars. It was destined for Saskatchewan and Alberta. Several families travelled with this train in a colonist type car where we ate and slept. At St. Paul Minnesota, the authorities advised us to leave the colonist car (for safety reasons) and travel the balance of the journey by regular passenger train. The journey took around 7 days. The late Charles Newton travelled with the freight car which contained livestock.

The old Varty homestead which had a frame house and some good log barns my Dad purchased. From the beginning we raised horses, milked cows, raised hogs and chickens. We obtained food by trade (barter), as there was so little cash. We always had plenty to eat and clothes to wear and truly enjoyed being in this new land.

The closest neighbor was Herman Podratz. We stayed with them a week before moving into our own place. Others were the McAllisters, Quantz's, Doans, McDonalds, Springays, Galloways, Gillis', Archibalds, Hemphkins, Brownes, Malcolms, Speakmans and Farrars.

Our first winter was very mild, but the winter of 1906 and 07 stands out above all other experiences even to this day. Living in this area with its' high altitude has got to be different and good!

Dad and mother were good community people and got along well with the neighbors. Our family consisted of: Frank D. Stevenette (me) married Hazel V. Shenfield of Bowden, John H. Stevenette married



1903. Mr. and Mrs. Allison Stevenett, Ada, Frank and John.

Jessie A. Shenfield of Bowden, and Ada E. Stevenette (deceased) who was married to O.P. Quantz.

About the only social type activity during the first 10 or 15 years was the annual school picnic and the Christmas school concerts.

Men used to work for their board during the winter months; summer jobs averaging \$1.00 a day. Threshing gangs got \$1.00-\$2.00 per day and those days were good long ones too. But - one could buy a pair of overalls for \$1.00 to \$1.25. Much trade was carried on in pork, beef, eggs and butter and even hay.

Our family attended the Antler Hill school No. 566. The first teacher we had was Miss Mary Speakman. Most of those early teachers worked for \$500.00 to \$700.00 per year and sometimes less.

Herman Podratz, I recall raised horses for sale and had a good market for them with all railway construction, lumbering, and farming — all depending on the horse. He had come to the district after 1900.

The Ephriam McAllister family came in 1893. We went to school with the 9 children of their family. Several of this family are still in the district.

The Galloway family came in the 1890's and were in their teens when we arrived. One of the girls Amy, visited us last summer (1972) checking on old land marks. She was 83 yrs. old.

The J.D. Quantz family came in a short time after the Railway came. Mr. Quantz was a veterinarian and practiced part time for a few years. Mrs. Quantz did a lot of mid-wife work. She had a Quaker background. There were 2 sons and the oldest one gave his life for his country in WWI.

The Doans arrived shortly after the railway was built. Mrs. J.D. Quantz was a sister to the Doan brothers.

The Speakmans and Farrar families came from England. They were a well-educated group and added much to the social life of the district. Mr. Speak-



Working on the road allowance; L. to R.: Frank Stevenett, Allison Stevenett, Samuel Twissell, Chas. Topliss, Doan Quantz.

man was one of the 1st presidents of the early farm organizations. Alfred, a son, entered politics and was an M.P. and later M.L.A.

The James Malcolm family was Scottish and came in the late 1890's. He was trained as an oaken barge builder in Scotland. He was Sec/Treas of Antler Hill S.D. for years.

The Arthur Archibald family came in the 1890's and from Scotland. He was a blacksmith and practiced his trade in New York state before coming here. He is especially remembered as an artist on the bagpipes and entertained neighbors, took part in early street parades in Innisfail along with Frank Laing and George Kirkham. The William McDonald family came in the late 1890's and Bill McDonald is remembered as one of the early owners of a steam threshing outfit — and a successful one. They returned to Ontario during W.W.I.

The Gillis family came in the late 1890's from the Dakotas (originally from Ontario). Mr. Gillis raised very fine draft horses until his retirement.

Our district has always been a closely knit community. Church services have been held locally and almost continuously to date.

I can recollect the numerous prairie fires which swept through this area. I have always been interested in educational administration and was Sec/treas of the district during the last three years when the School District collected the taxes. A. Stevenette, A. Speakman and Arthur Archibald were local board members for a number of years. I worked with Dr. Thurber, Divisional Superintendent for 17 years. More recently, I have been interested in the long term health program.

Early pioneers I recall in Innisfail and district were: Hamilton Bros of Horse Shoe Lake who years ago had the Grand Champion stallion at the Chicago International fair. David Sinclair who raised good

shorthorn cattle. Chris Moffat of Knee Hill a long time municipal councillor. Frank Laing a councillor in the Aberdeen district. George E. Bryan whom my Dad first met at Innisfail when he was looking for land. G.W. West a long time store-keeper which I remember as being the first store we entered on coming to Innisfail. I recall too, the Morkebergs and stories of their fording the Red Deer River and a long career they had in butter-making. Jack Moore the creamery-man and farmer. L.M. McLean the creamery-operator and businessman. Maley & Onsum the real estate agents and it was thru' them that Dad purchased our farm.

Hazel and I have been blessed with a son and daughter: William Frank (married Maureen Craig) and Gladys Marie (Mrs. Geo. Tweed). We have six grandchildren.

A. Stevenett passed away May 4, 1962, my mother Rachel passed away Oct. 30, 1923. Ada E. Quantz (Stevenett) died Oct. 20th, 1968.

I, Frank, was a member of the first class at the Olds Agricultural College in 1913. I have the honor to be the first man named to the "hall of Fame" at the Olds Agricultural & Vocational School. I am a past master of the Innisfail Lodge Past Patron of the Order of the Eastern Star, Past District Deputy Grand Master for District 4, a member of the hospital board since 1961 of which I am now Vice Chairman.

Our Son Bill and his wife Maureen run the Stevenette farm today.

THE JESSE STEWART FAMILY by Mrs. G. Geary

My father Jesse Stewart was born in England and came to Canada for a trip. While he was on the boat he met a Dr. C.P. Marker who persuaded my father to accompany him "out West". He had originally intended to return to England. Instead my mother and I came out here to join him.

He had been a member of the Stock Exchange in Johannesburg, S. Africa. He had a general store in Innisfail and lived for a short time near Tindastoll, the Icelandic settlement, and was instrumental in having Markerville named after Dr. C.P. Marker who was a dairy commissioner from Denmark.

My Mother was the former Annie Mary Plant born in Kent, England. I am the only child, Frances Jessie, and married G. Grant Geary. My father joined the R.C.N.V.R. during World War I and did convoy duty across the Atlantic and he was in Halifax Harbour at the time of the Halifax explosion in 1917.

For entertainment in the early days we did a lot of skating, curling, hockey in winter and tennis in the summer.

I attended the Innisfail public school and had Misses Halstead, Rankin, McLean and Mr. Boyd as teachers. Some of my schoolmates were: Myrtle Biggs, K. Lauder, L. Center, A. Fumerton, E. Kemp and Alan Bryan. The early families remembered are the George Geary, William Geary, G.E. Bryan, Dr. George, Dr. J.D. Lauder, Mrs. Barwis, F.M. Rogers, F.M. Oldham, F. Archer and Simpson and S.P. Fream.

There was a particularly severe winter we all went through in 1906-07. I was a competitor in early Alberta Musical Festivals in Edmonton and Winnipeg. I received the junior piano medal, also sight reading in later years. I obtained the Licentiate degree from the Royal Academy & Royal College, London, England (LRSM). We were all active at St. Mark's church and I was on staff at the Innisfail Public School.

Jesse Stewart died Jan, 1936, and Mrs. Stewart Oct., 1947. Both are buried in Calgary.

STICKLAND FAMILY by Dorothy (Stickland) Lamar

William George Stickland

William was the youngest in a family of seven. His mother died when he was six. His father and three brothers were farmers and lay ministers. At an early age he left home and served as an apprentice in a large drapery store in London, England. Living conditions were not good and his health started to fail. His doctor advised a change and after a visit home he sailed for Canada on March 17, 1901.

On the boat he met a doctor's son who was coming to Maple Creek. He stopped off there also and obtained work on the Dixon Bro. cattle ranch as foreman. Due to a hard winter, he saw too many cattle die on the prairie and decided to try something else. He came to Red Deer where he worked out as cook on survey and bridge building jobs up and down the province.

In 1905 he returned to England for three months and met his wife-to-be. Both were born near Bodmin, Cornwall, England. On returning to Canada he established a home in Red Deer. In Aug. 1907 Jane Littleton arrived in Montreal where they were married. In Red Deer Mr. Stickland and Charles Reid owned the Windsor Hotel and sold real estate

for three years. Here Dorothy May was born, May 1908, and Thomas Edwin in July 1909.

In 1910 the call of the land took them back to a rented farm at 'The Spruces' near Innisfail for two years. The Spruces was an old log stopping house for travellers in the early days.

While there Dorothy can recall her mother taking them picking saskatoons where the stampede grounds are now and her dad helping the Morris family at threshing time. One day their mother missed them in the yard and started out to track them down on the dusty trail. Mrs. Morris saw quite a procession coming over the hill, first Dorothy, then Eddie, followed by the dog, cat, and their mother. Another memory was duck hunters in one of the first cars in Innisfail, leaving the yard with an Irish rat-tailed water spaniel. As our dog looked similar, there was much distress thinking they were taking our dog.

Also recalled (I believe you can still see two holes drilled by dad in the cross beams of the ceiling) were many happy hours spent by the children in the swing, a rope affair with one side out of a box where they could be tied in so they could not fall out.

The next move in 1912 was a few miles further north to the Arthur Hives place for one year. Here Emily Winnifred was born. Here also our cousin, William James Stickland, came to live with us and help farm. Another move the next year for three years further north on the Evan's farm in the Fairlands district there Dorothy and Edwin started school at a very early age to help keep the school open due to lack of pupils. At the Evan's farm Ethel Margerite and William Gordon Stickland were born.

By this time, 1916, Mr. Stickland had decided to buy the Neal McDougall homestead across the Red Deer river, west of Penhold, in the Ridgewood district. Here Reginald joined the family in July 1917. Mixed farming was carried on. We milked twenty-one cows by hand one year when all six children were attending the local school. They had one of the first cars in the district, a 1914 Ford Touring car. More land was bought as the family grew up. William served on the school board for 19 years and on the telephone board. He enjoyed duck hunting as well and until moving to town we had an Irish rat-tail water spaniel. They carried on farming until 1949 when Mr. & Mrs. Stickland retired to Red Deer where they enjoyed their gardening and visiting with old timers and their family.

Mrs. Stickland was of a jovial nature with a wonderful personality. She enjoyed reading, fancy work, and was a lover of flowers inside and out. She was an active member of the E.F.W.A., also belonging to the Red Cross, Victory Club, and Women's Institute. In August 1957 William and Jane celebrated their Diamond Wedding Anniversary with all their family and friends. Mrs. Stickland died April 24, 1970 at the age of 93. Mr. Stickland died Sept. 21, 1970 having celebrated his 100th birthday on May 12, 1970. They left 13 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren with more being born since.

Children:

In November 1935 Dorothy May Stickland married Harold N. Lamar who was born at Albion, Nebraska, February 1906, on a farm. During his growing up years, his family moved from farm to farm, later working on the railroad and finally settling in Los Angeles. Harold worked at steel construction, truck and taxi driving, fruit picking, harvesting. He came north with his brother Buford to the W. Hibbert farm east of Innisfail. Mrs. Hibbert had attended school with his family in the states. He worked that winter in a logging camp north of Rocky Mountain House and both brothers farmed around Ridgewood until Harold and Dorothy moved to their homestead 20 miles NE of Rocky Mountain House, carrying on mixed farming for six years. Here Harold was on the first school board and helped build the Lone Deer School as well as being road foreman and helped build the first road into that locality. In 1942 they moved back to Ridgewood, buying the Gordon Speck homestead. Here they built up a mixed farm, milking cows, and raising pure-bred Angus cattle. On April 24, 1973 they had a farm machinery sale and have rented crop land out. They will spend part of their time on their daughter's property near Vernon, B.C. Harold was active in curling, serving in Penhold on the Curling Executive and on the Hall Board at Ridgewood. Dorothy taught Sunday school, a member of F.W.U.A., Victory Club, and W.I. Harold and Dorothy have one daughter, Charlotte Jean Hodgkinson who teaches Anthropology in Edmonton; she has three children — Peter, Gordon and Mildred.

Thomas Edwin Stickland married Feb. 24, 1937 Sylvia Winnifred Cressy; farmed, then moved to White Rock, B.C. Two children. Leona Kathleen Kuehn (Robert Kuehn); 2 ch. Cheryl and Ashley. Live in Edmonton. Raymond m. Betty Henderson; Penhold; 4 ch.: Marli, Lori, Shannon, Leanne.

Emily Winnifred Stickland RN, nursed in Red Deer and Innisfail. m. June 21, 1938 Jesse L. Raymond; retired in Everett. Ch.: Helen Joyce m. Gerald Hussey; Jeffrey, Joel, Heidi. Nancy m. Richard Shearer: Ian & Angela.

Ethel Margerite Stickland — teacher at Ridgewood and Tindastoll. 1940 m. James Morrisroe of Pine Hill; farm at Red Deer; son Ronald, daughters Norma, Gail.

Gordon Stickland — took over the family farm in Ridgewood in 1949; m. Blanche Viola Ramsay June 1941; 3 sons: Melvin m. Irma George: Dianne & Curtis. Terence. Kenneth m. Donna Short: one daughter, Chantel. Melvin, Terence, farm with Gordon.

Reginald Stickland — farms the Hugh McDougall homestead west of Penhold bridge. m. Vivian McDuffy June 1942. 2 ch.: Barbara m. Jack Bodwell: Linda, Terence, Kimberley. Harvey m. Lucy Weber: Treena & Raeanne.

William James Stickland, a nephew to William G., came to Canada from St. Austell, Cornwall, in 1911, spending the winter in Toronto and later coming to help his uncle. In the early twenties he bought land adjoining W.G.'s and carried on farming until his

retirement to Red Deer several years ago. He sold his land to Melvin Stickland, Gordon's son. He always had a good garden and enjoyed working with his horses until he progressed to a tractor. He also milked cows and raised range cows. In 1930 he married Gladys Prowse from England. She died in 1941 and he carried on alone until 1947 when he married Mrs. Lucy Shearer. Both were active in United Church work in Red Deer. She died in January 1972 and Willie is again alone, but had good neighbors and friends who keep in touch with him.

STIGINGS FAMILY by Hilda Manuel

Charles Stigings:

My grandfather, Charles Stigings, was born in England on February 27, 1853. He married Emma Symons, born Dec. 20, 1847, at St. James, Torpoint, Cornwall on July 18, 1877. They lived at Castle Cottage, Totnes, Devon, England, where Charles was a coal merchant. Charles and Emma had five children: Tom, Stanley, Hilda, Nellie, and Norman. A new life in a new land appealed to the family. They had relatives settled in Toronto and 1899 Charles' son Stanley accompanied Mrs. Stiging's sister, Mrs. Osmond and son Pitner, to Canada and the Innisfail area. Charles, Emma, and their children Hilda, Nellie and Norman came a little later that same year. They stopped for a week in Toronto to visit relatives before continuing on their way west. Charles and his family settled on a farm west of Innisfail they called "Brookside". Son Tom and his family arrived from England to help develop the homestead, but the family decided to move to Victoria, B.C. in 1911. Nellie was ill with a heart condition and it was hoped the move would benefit her health. Brookside was sold to the Boyds. Grandpa and the ladies and children left for Victoria followed by Tom and Norman in a freight car loaded with their horses and Nellie's dog. The men had a job in Victoria doing dray work. While here, the family met Rachel Knight, a girl from Devonshire. When Nellie passed away in 1912, Grandma and Grandpa returned to Innisfail making their home in a separate residence on the farm of Noble Robinson. When Emma died on June 8, 1918, Charles returned to B.C. to live on Pender



Chas. and Emma Stigings and daughter Nellie.

Island. Here he enjoyed his hobby of gardening. He died in Innisfail on February 1933 while here visiting his children and grandchildren.

Thomas Charles Stigings — born July 12, 1878. He married Edith Drew April 2, 1899 in England. Their daughter, Edith Winnifred, born Mar. 18, 1901, married Joe Manuel in 1936. The Manuel family had bought Brookside, the Charles Stigings homestead, from the Boyds, and Joe and Edith Manuel farmed here until their retirement into Innisfail. They have three sons and six grandchildren. Their second son, Duncan Manuel and family have taken over Brookside. Thomas Charles Stigings died on Feb. 28, 1952.

John Stanley Stigings — born Jan. 29, 1881. He married Ruth Hives from Penhold on June 22, 1910. They lived for some years on a farm in the Dickson area and then moved to a fruit farm on Pender Island, B.C. where he was also a mailman. They had five children: John Charles, born May 15, 1911; Clifford Stanley, born Sept. 1, 1913; Arthur Winston, born Mar. 8, 1915; Gwenilene Ruth, born Sept. 15, 1916; and Margaret Hilda, born Sept. 6, 1921. John Stanley Stigings died Dec. 25, 1952 in England where he had gone after his wife had died.

Hilda — born Sept. 11, 1886. She married Noble M. Robinson Jan. 8, 1908. (see Robinson story) They farmed in the Gordon district; two children, Christopher and Sherwin.

Nellie Louise — born May 14, 1888; passed away when only 24 years old with a heart condition — Dec. 19, 1912 in Victoria.

William Norman — born Sept. 23, 1891. When his parents returned to Innisfail after Nellie's death, Norman and Tom moved to Quesnel, B.C. where they had a contract hauling ties for the Pacific Great Eastern Railway. Tom's wife Edith and their family and Rachel Knight were able to get some sort of a taxi at Ashcroft (the end of the rail road line) and drove to Quesnel, taking the best part of a day to do so. Tom and Norman had to unload their horses from the freight car and drive them the rest of the way to Quesnel — about 200 miles — which took them nearly a week. Their work did not last long as the war broke out in 1914 and the tie cutting contract was cancelled. The Tom Stigings family moved on to Edmonton, Alberta. Norman (my dad) got work in a lumber mill and Rachel Knight worked at a drygoods store in Quesnel. They were married there on August 30, 1915. Their daughter Hilda was born May 28, 1916. In 1917, Grandma Emma Stigings had a stroke, was in a wheel chair and could not speak. Mother and Dad decided to return to Innisfail. For a while we made our home on the farm of Brose Vreeland, with whom Dad worked.

Brose was a well respected little American bachelor who loved children. He kept some lovely purebred Percheron horses as sort of a hobby, which were kept enclosed behind high rail fences as they were not to be trusted. I soon became adept at climbing these fences to get better acquainted with the

horses, and got many a whipping unless 'Brose' found me first.

In 1920 we moved to the Pitner Osmond farm where my brother, Stan Stigings, is still farming. Some of our neighbors were: Manuels, Wm. Edgar, Scotts, McKays, Milligans, Sinclairs, and later the Tom Scarletts. Geo. Atkinsons were our winter neighbors when we could cross the ice on the Red Deer River, which separated us.

Our recreation was quite limited but we did enjoy hockey and skating on the river ice; and in summer Mother often took us and friends for a walk along the river and a picnic. We used to enjoy visits from Mr. & Mrs. H.J. Percy and family. Sometimes in the summer they pitched their tent in our yard and camped there for a week or two. We had one of the first radios in the district — one with the squeaky horn — which was quite an attraction for all the neighbors; they often gathered at our place on Saturday nights in the winter to dance to the old timers music. How we treasured a shin plaster when we were children — it was worth twenty-five cents.

Dad gradually broke more land using eight horses and a breaking plow. He used to do some custom breaking for the neighbors, too. He had fair crops most years. In those days, most of the families from England gave names to their farmplaces and ours was called 'Shorncliff'.

My brother Stanley was born Nov. 11, 1921 at the old Innisfail hospital where the Cossey Apts. are now. Stan and I both attended Little Red Deer school. Some of the teachers were: Neil Manuel, Ethel and Florence Hayes, Isabel Nesbit and Margaret Hawkey. The Hayes sisters used to put on some wonderful concerts which were much enjoyed by the youngsters of the community. Ethel soon became Mrs. Jack Scarlett.

Stanley and I both won free trips to the School of Agriculture at Olds for the most points at the school fair held in Innisfail where all the districts competed.

I (Hilda) married Keith Manuel on Nov. 28, 1939, and we have resided on the farm formerly owned by the John Carr family ever since. I received a Service Badge from the Red Cross in the fall of 1972. We used to canvass in March and the first years I did this on horseback as there was so much snow and the roads were not opened up in the winter. Tat Hall and Anita Fox were members when I started.

Stanley married Kathleen Connon on Feb. 28, 1949. Their children are: Dwayne Kenneth, born July 6, 1951; Patricia Anne, born Mar. 11, 1954; Bruce, born June 1, 1960; and Janice, born Dec. 7, 1962. They live on the family farm Shorncliff. Dwayne married Judith Green of Olds on Oct. 23, 1971 and they are farming in the Little Red Deer district.

Norman Stigings died on June 8, 1966 and his wife Rachel on Sept. 26, 1971.

THOMAS CHARLES STIGINGS by Winifred Manuel

Thomas, the eldest son of Charles Stigings, was born in Devonshire, England and came to Innisfail



Threshing at the Stigings.

early in the 1900's. His wife and daughter Winifred (who was born in Bristol, England) came later.

They lived on the Stigings farm until 1911 when they moved to Victoria, B.C. the farm being sold to the Boyd Family of Scotland.

Tom, his father and brother Norman were in the draying business for a few years, later moving to Quesnel, B.C. then to Innisfail, Edmonton, Calgary, Toronto and Vancouver.

Winifred married Josiah W. Manuel in 1936 and they have three sons.

Both Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Stigings are buried in the Innisfail Cemetery.

THE STRINGER STORY by Mrs. Jennie Stringer

Nelson and I, Jennie, Stringer, came to the Knee Hill Valley district east of Innisfail in 1921. It was in a Calgary paper we had noticed a farm was for sale in this area and not having a car, we hired Jack Janssen to drive us to look at the land. On May 4th, 1921, we motored on muddy roads, getting lost and stuck twice, and with snow still in some places, to see the farm Mr. Marsh owned. It had a fair barn and a seven roomed house. The school, store and post office were only half a mile from the buildings. We discovered we could rent land near by for pasture. The decision was made and our life in Knee Hill Valley was now beginning.

Our brother-in-law, William Scott, and Nelson came down and seeded some of the land. I arrived with three children by wagon July 14th. Bordon born in 1913 was 7 years old and frail and hadn't been to school yet; Thelma was born in 1915 and was five years old; Leonard, born in 1916 went to school the following year, but the other two started school that fall. Taxes in the first school district here were \$6.00 for 160 acres. You could work out half of this amount by plowing fire guards. The first Pleasant Valley school was 18 by 40 feet and was built in 1906. It was of brick construction and cost \$12,00.00.

Our near neighbors were Mr. & Mrs. George Troyer, Mr. H. Flinn family, Mr. & Mrs. Wm. Bilton and Fred Hewitt. I remember Mr. Troyer so well, he had lost a hand in a feed cutting machine. He buried it on his farm in Michigan. Two years later, he went to show neighbors how it had happened and cut his other hand off. He was quite remarkable in being

able to eat (by tying a fork to his stub arm). He could drive a team, paint the house and anything else one might think of. Jack Naylor ran a beef ring for twenty-seven families. Each family gave an animal and you picked up your share each week. Another neighbor Mr. Normando lit a fire while breaking and left it while eating his dinner. When he returned it was out of control and burnt a half section of pasture land. It came very near the school and the children were sent home.

A. Jones, better known as X.Y.Z. Jones was Mrs. Mainwarings' uncle. He was a horse trader. One winter he went to Calgary to a Home for the Elderly. It had straw bunks infested with lice and bed bugs. He came home in the spring mighty thin and hungry.

Nelson got work on the road and it paid for the taxes (\$40.00). He became foreman and later dragged the road for the summer months. He broke 45 acres of N.W. 36-34-27-W 4th, with horses and a walking plow. He was on the Pleasant Valley School Board for many years. He went with Den Bryan to sign up enough returned men to form the first Legion in Innisfail. He became a life member having a 25 year button.

Mr. Whetham, our mailman took sick in 1931 and Nelson took his job over. Nelson delivered mail for 18 years with a team of horses. In the winter he used a covered sleigh and had a warmed rock, which had been kept in our oven the previous night, to help him keep warm. Those serving as Postmaster were: Miss Whealon, Pam Wilson, Herb Bilton, Paul Schaefer, Linda Schaefer, Marjorie Offerhaus, Irene Thurston, Marjorie Thurston and Byron Keirnan. The Post office was closed permanently September 25, 1969.

I took in some maternity patients for which I got paid either 20 bushels of oats or \$10. The patients would be in bed for ten days and usually brought their families with them. In between times, I played for dances, cooked for threshers, and for bachelors, kept travellers, played for Christmas Concerts and was organist for the church for about 40 years.

In 1928, a daughter was born to us in the Innisfail hospital and Mrs. Mainwaring named her Iona. She is now Mrs. Stanley Malsbury and they farm in the Edwell district. They have three children: Donna, Merwin Blair and Robert.

In 1931, the school was closed because of an epidemic of polio. Leonard developed this dread disease and was paralyzed down one side. Later, Leonard was a guide for Brewsters' in Banff for a number of years. He ran a riding academy for two years at Christina Lake. He worked for a number of years at the Banff Parks Branch, was a fire warden for 9 years. He married Margaret Delbecke. She died in 1961 and Leonard in 1972.

Bordon, born in 1913 began renting a farm in the Milnerton district in 1935. He married the former Gladys Bennett of the Horseshoe Lake district. They have two children: Murray (born 1944) and Darlene (born 1947). In 1945 they bought the Harvey Troyer farm on which the Knee Hill Valley store and post

office were located. Murray and his family live on the old Stringer farm.

Thelma married Norman Holt in 1933 and they have three children: Dayle, Wayne and Donald. Thelma passed away in 1943.

Nelson retired from the mail route in 1949 and in 1951 rented the farm to Bordon. Due to ill health he spent the last three years of his life in hospital. He passed away in 1962. The next year I moved into an apartment in Innisfail where I stayed eight years. Because of poor health I moved into the Autumn Glen Lodge in Innisfail in 1971. Last year I received a Heart Pacer and have been reasonably well since that time.

George Williams, a colored man, came to Innisfail from Jamaica in 1892. He was a cobbler and amateur photographer. Died in 1902. He came with the future Mrs. Jack Smith as a valet. He was highly respected by everybody.

ROBERT STUART by his son, Robert Stuart

Robert Stuart came to Manitoba from Glasgow, Scotland in 1903 and to Innisfail on April 7, 1905. He was born in Motelmein, Burma on April 15, 1883, where his father was involved in trade with teak. When he was of school age he was sent back to Brighton, England along with his oldest sister, Emily. Later he attended school in Glasgow. He worked on various farms around Neepawa, Manitoba (wages were \$12.50 a month) and in a sash and door factory. He decided to come west where there was more land available for settlement and by Nov. 5, 1904 had gone as far as Kamloops, B.C. but decided he liked the looks of Alberta better and arrived in Innisfail on April 13, 1905. He looked at land in Tail Creek, Red Deer, Pine Lake and Penhold districts finally purchasing land on the north side of Antler Hill, batching in a small shack there. The lack of money and low wages left very little with which to acquire equipment. Much of it was obtained in exchange for labour. Breaking land involved grubbing out the trees by hand, pulling them over with a team of hor-



Glasgow 1902: Robert, Edna (Handford), Mrs. Emily Stuart, Emily (Blake), Will, Mr. Wm. Stuart, Nellie (Fraser), Frank.

ses or oxen and ploughing the ground with the same team. Roots had to be chopped each time the plough became hung up on them.

Robert's parents, William and Emily (Grey) Stuart, older brother Frank A., younger brother William Grey, and sisters Emily, Nellie, and Edna, came in 1908 to Innisfail, settling on 'Hazelwood', the old Pitner Osmond homestead (SE32-35-28-4)

Robert Stuart married Marion Ferrie Hodge at a ceremony held in Innisfail on Dec. 7, 1910, conducted by the Reverend J.S. Shortt. Children: 1. William, born July 1912, died March 1915; 2. Robert A., born Dec. 2, 1914, married Joan Morrison of Leverburgh, Harris, Scotland on Feb. 22, 1943 while serving overseas with the RCAF as a radar mechanic. He is now operating 'Hazelwood', the family farm. Robert and Joan's children are — Robert Morison Stuart born Nov. 24, 1943 in Scotland, married Elaine Baker; they farm east of Innisfail; two children, Lauranne and Robert Ewan. Mary Joan married James Govenlock, a teacher; they live at Whitecourt and have two children, James, Jr. and Johan. Donald Ian is still at home. 3. Doris, born January 11, 1919 married Robert H. Donner in 1942. They are living on their farm in Buffalo Creek district.

In 1913 William and Emily Stuart moved to Innisfail and Robert and his wife took over the farm on their return from Victoria in May of that year. Early neighbors were Mr. & Mrs. McGorman and son Albert, and daughters Hattie and Frances; Dodds to the SE, Wm Kemp to the south; Haywards to the west and Mortons and Peggy Low to the NW. Dad worked quite frequently with McGormans and Dodds, especially during harvest. The grain was cut with a horse binder, stooked by hand and then hauled and stacked prior to threshing. The building of a good stack was quite an art and anyone good at this was in great demand at the time. The threshing was done later in the fall and sometimes ran on well after freeze-up. Other old-timers I recall Dad mentioned were Lees, Schaefers, Ed Carswell, Billy Malcolm, McLeods, McDonalds, Jack Moore and Bill Champ.

The winter of 1906-07 was evidently a very severe one and hauling the meager supplies of feed and spinning it out over the long cold spell was quite a problem. There was many the upset sleigh, broken harness and cold and benumbed man and beast before it was all over.

Dad served as Sec. Treas. of the Innisfail local of the UFA from 1916 to 1921. Wm Edgar Sr. was one of the UFA local's first presidents. Dad was a member of the Agricultural Society for many years and on the Innisfail School Board from 1921 to 1950 serving also on the Executive of the Alberta School Trustees Assoc. for many years. Early school board members were Dr. Green, Dr. Carscallen, W. Watt, and W.H. Jackson. He was also a long time director of the Mountain View Livestock Shipping Cooperative (1926-1952) along with Fred Domoney of Penhold and Bristol Center of Innisfail.



Mr. and Mrs. Robert Stuart, Dec. 1910

In the years prior to and during WWI, the agriculture fairs were a very popular event. Patrons turned out dressed in their best and riding in their shined up buggies or democrats. Anyone who had a reasonably outstanding animal entered it in the fair, in hopes of winning a red ribbon, and classes were well filled. Once, Dad was going to the fair grounds with his shiny black angus bull 'Angie', and just as he passed the west end of main street, Mrs. J.R. Moore came driving by. The prancing horse and especially, the flashing red wheels on the gleaming buggy suddenly put Angie in a playful mood and wheeling about, he made a pass at the spinning objects. In doing so, he jerked the lead rope out of Dad's hands. With a shriek, Mrs. Moore came to her feet and applied the whip smartly to her horse's bottom. The sudden take-off and madly spinning wheels were more than any frisky bull could resist. Before Dad could retrieve the lead rope, horse, buggy, woman, and bull were lost in a cloud of dust right up the main street. The repeated shrieking and whipping up of the horse caused Mrs. Moore a loss of dignity and my father wasn't forgiven for many a day.

Wm. Stuart Sr. died in 1918 and his wife Emily Grey Stuart in 1927. They are interred in Calgary.

Robert Stuart died Aug. 28, 1955 at Innisfail

Frank Alexander Stuart died in 1956 at Victoria.

Wm. Grey Stuart died May 8, 1953, age 61, at Victoria.

Emily (Mrs. J. Blake) died in 1933 at Kitscotty.

Nellie (Mrs. A.T. Fraser) died in 1965 at Leduc.

Edna (Mrs. P. Handford) died in 1961 at Victoria.

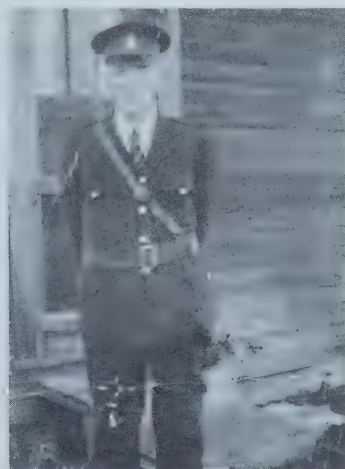
SUCEE STORY by Max Sucee

My father and mother, Mr. & Mrs. William James Sucee, were born in Ontario — in the Township of Cardiff, County of Haliburton. They had 6 children.

In the year 1899 Dad came west to Innisfail, Alberta and took out a homestead west of town in the Big Bend district. That summer he worked on the river drive and returned home in the fall. In the spring of 1900, W.J. Sucee sold his farm in Ontario (200 acres of hills and rocks) for \$200, and then brought his family west to Innisfail by train which took them seven days — arriving here May 6th.

The first job Jim Sucee got in the spring of 1901 was building two log houses for Dan & Holger Morkeberg on their homestead near Markerville. They paid him \$2.00 a day for the building. In the spring of 1902 Jim Sucee had 150 head of yearling calves and on June 10th there came one awful blizzard. Dad's homestead ran down to the Red Deer river and during the storm 100 head of calves were swept over the river bank and buried under tons of snow. The other 50 head stayed around the corrals and were sheltered.

With my brothers and two sisters I attended the Big Bend school and recall Miss Senabough as a teacher. Some of those attending school with me were Dave & Ernie Bateman, and their sister Jenny; Ernie Sullivan, Harry & Nina Alden, Abe & Webb Conn, Herman & Goldie Eagle and Walter & Warren Brown.



Max Sucee as Innisfail's Town Policeman.

After leaving school I went out east of Innisfail to work. When I was 15 years old, in 1905, I got a job with the Johnson Campbell family to help with chores for \$10. per month plus board and room. It was in that winter that I had one of Johnston Campbell's teams and hauled lumber from Jack McInroys' saw mill at the Raven. Campbell was there helping me to load and sending me on my way to G.W. West lumber yard in town. The winter road consisted of quite a few miles on the river. In the middle of March I was coming down the river and my team broke through the ice with only their heads just above the ice. Luckily the sleigh and load were still intact with me still sitting on top of the load. I slid off the load down the front and drew the pin out of the double trees and then went to the front of the horses and lay down on the ice and got them unhooked from the

tongue and got them apart. I took their halter rope and got up and pulled on one of the mares and she came out with the first leap. When I tried the other, he wouldn't come out so I went to the back of the load and got the one who would not come out. I then got the log chain off from the back of the load and put it around the horses neck and hooked this one to the one I got out — and in this way I was able to get the horse there on the ice. He lay there on the ice for about 20 minutes. I then got him up and hooked the horses together and pulled the sleigh load of lumber away from the hole. From there on until I got off the river I tapped the ice ahead of the team making sure it was safe with an axe off the load.

In the late fall of 1910 and 1911 I accompanied Johnson Campbell, Tom Abraham and Max Edgar to Wolfe Creek to spend the winter freighting into the Yellowhead pass. I remember there were 3,500 teams of horses on a 109 mile haul from Wolfe Creek into the pass. We all returned home in March, 1911.

I then went out east and worked for Johnny Johnson for 6 years. It was in 1916 that I married Jessie Robinson in Elnora and farmed there until 1919. We then moved back to Innisfail. I operated a dray line for sometime and during W.W.II, I served on the Innisfail town police force.



Mildred, Max and Everett Sucee.

We had three children: Mildred (Mrs. Clifford Holman) — lives at Drayton Valley. Gladys was the second daughter and died at the age of 9 years in 1929. Our only son Everett joined the Calgary Highlanders in Sept, 1939 and served overseas. He was wounded twice in battle and carried a piece of shrapnel in his chest until his death in Oct. 1971. He was 49 years old. In his army career, he advanced to the position of instructor with the rank of Sgt/Major. After discharge he re-enlisted and went to England. He returned to B.C. and moved to Vancouver with his wife.

The William James Sucee family were: Bill born in 1888 and resides in High River (1973); Max (me) born in 1890, Jesse born in 1895, died in 1943 in Calgary; Joe born in 1901 and resides in the U.S.A.; Laura born in 1892 married Jack Bradley and lives

in the U.S.A.; Julia born in 1898 married Ed Anderson and resides in Calgary.

My Dad used to raise a litter of pigs each year. We would keep two for our own use and sell the other 5 or 6. G.W. West would take these pigs for 3c lb. (with the head and feet cut off). G.W. West was a man who would never let anyone go hungry — whether you had a nickel or not and all the children looked forward to a bag of candy that was tucked in the grocery orders for the children.

I remember Wong Wo too and his uncle called "Poe". You could go into Wongs and get all you could eat for 25c.

My father Jim Sucee passed away Jan, 1946, mother in 1923. Both are buried in Ontario.

I have my own home in Innisfail and still get around very well at the age of 83 years on April 28th of this year of 1973.

DENIS & MARY SULLIVAN SR. AND ERNEST & FLORA SULLIVAN by Flora Dingle

In 1893 among the travellers who stopped at "The Spruces" near the present site of Innisfail was a tall be-mustached gentleman of Erin, Denis O'Sullivan. He was born in Cork in 1856, and had received a classical education there.

Some years later he emigrated to the U.S.A. where he worked as a timekeeper on the railroad. He also dropped the "O" prefix to his name.

In 1886 he married Mary Elizabeth Stuart, daughter of William Stuart, then Chief of Police of Butte, Montana. Their two children Maisie and Ernest were born in Kalispell.

Hearing tales of the great country to the North with its available homestead land, Denis, with his family joined the exodus. Since the C.P.R. and the C & E lines were completed, they travelled by rail, finding it less arduous than Bull trains or stage coaches. When the family reached "The Spruces" they disembarked, as did so many, to look over the area.

Eight miles west of this, in the Big Bend district, Denis homesteaded, later buying more land. So attractive was his land, bordered by the Little Red Deer river, that they named it "Buena Vista". Though the timber had commercial value he would not allow it to be cut.

Using hired hands, a log house and barn were constructed. In 1881, three thousand head of cattle had been driven into the N.W.T. from Texas and Montana. From these herds Denis acquired his nucleus stock of Herefords, branding them 00.

Hay or prairie "wool" was put up in winter, the stock was watered at holes cut in the river. Later a well was dug, then drilled, being powered by one horse "old Bill" on a tread.

Once annually a trip was made to "lay" up supplies. With team and wagon.

In 1902, tragedy struck the family, when Maisie at fourteen years contracted typhoid while boarding in Innisfail to attend school.

Among their neighbors were the Conn's, Batemans', Munro's, Aldens and Brandts. The sons played football, baseball and hockey. The large



Mrs. D. Sullivan

Sullivan home with piano was a favorite gathering place. Mrs. Sullivan became an excellent rider and was known for her good business abilities.

Ernest was educated in Innisfail and Western Canada High School in Calgary later joining the 15th Lighthorse. After the open range was fenced, farming superceded ranching so Ernest returned to till the soil.

Later he met and married Miss Flora Blenkhorn, a teacher on the staff of the Innisfail school. They were married at the home of Mr. & Mrs. W.C.A. Watt. She was born in Nova Scotia, coming to the district with her parents in 1910. She attended school in Innisfail and then Normal in Calgary. While teaching at the May City school, near Olds, the writer experienced one of the old time May snowstorms. She was boarding across the road from the school at the home of Mr. Sam Cummins. By morning a drift extended from the roof of the house to the top of the school door. In the kitchen was a litter of piglets. Sam had brought the sow into the house to save the brood. "Paddy" had nothing on him.

Following this marriage, Ernest continued to farm. Five children were born to the couple, three sons: Denis, Ernest and Arthur, and two daughters Mary and Alma.

In 1932 tragedy struck the family when the beloved husband and father met accidental death. In 1935 grandfather Denis passed away followed by his wife Mary in 1942. All are interred in the Innisfail Cemetery.

Since Ernest had hoped his sons would engage in occupations other than farming, Flora rented the farm until the youngest child reached age and moved to Calgary. Having met Mr. Frank Dingle who came to the area in 1925, she remarried. Frank had served as Chaplain with the Australian Imperials in W.W.I. He passed away in 1965, being interred in the Field of Honor, Burnsland, Calgary. They had one daughter, married with two children, now living in the Olds area (Mrs. Albert Bond).

Ernest served in the R.C.A.F. In 1948, following his discharge he became a building contractor. In 1952, Denis went into partnership with Ernest, the company named "Sullivan Bros." with Ernest as President. In 1957 they dissolved partnership, Ernie taking his family to California where he continued in construction.

Before moving to Victoria, Denis served for two years as President of the Calgary Housebuilder's Assoc. and as regional Vice-President of the National Association. He also served four years as chairman of the Tweedsmuir School for girls.

Arthur also went into the field of construction, his company being "Art Sullivan & Co." He built many subdivisions in Calgary, Edmonton and Phoenix, Arizona. One of his many interests is in riding. He is a contestant in "cutting" competitions in Canada and the U.S.A. as his many trophies can testify. He is married and has four children.

In 1942 Mary married Flt/Lt. Hyle Heimbecker, a schoolmate who joined the R.C.A.F. In 1943 while serving as a pilot of a Halifax Bomber, his plane was shot down over Stuttgart and he lost his life. Mary remarried and has four children.

Alma married L.A.C. Edward Lawson who served in the R.A.F. for the duration. After successfully carrying on business for over twenty years, they now reside in Victoria. They have five children.

The writer (Flora) has been associated with church and school organizations; has served on the staff of the Calgary Public School, and for ten years was in-



Flora and Ernest Sullivan leaving on honeymoon 1920.

volved in Kindergarten work. She has held various offices in the Order of the Eastern Star and is a member of the Calgary Sketch Club and exhibits paintings locally. Part of her time is spent in travel, visiting children and grandchildren as well as some overseas travel.

According to early paper: (1901)

Innisfail named after Innisfail, Argyllshire, Scotland prior to 1893 it was Poplar Grove.

THE SVEINSON STORY by Norman Sveinson

In the fall of 1902, John Sveinson, his wife, Thora, and six children arrived by train in Innisfail. They settled in the Tindastol Community where an Icelandic settlement had been established several years earlier. The Post Office at Tindastol was later moved to Markerville, where a Creamery had been built in 1899.

That first winter must have been somewhat trying for the whole family, as they had no place to live. Mr. and Mrs. Sveinson and the younger children lived with another Icelandic couple that winter while the rest of the children stayed with another family.

In the spring of 1903, they bought a farm approximately one mile south of Markerville on the banks of the Medicine River. This farm has remained in the Sveinson family to this date.

John and Thora were both born in Iceland. John in 1858 and Thora in 1859. They were married in Canada and settled first at Churchbridge, Saskatchewan. When they came to this area, they had six children, a daughter, Groa, and five sons: Thomas, Gisli (Jim), Waldemar, Sigurd and Louis. A second daughter, Dora, was born here in 1904.

Groa married Eric Eirickson of Markerville and their two sons, Gisli and Mundi still farm in the community.

Thomas married Thordis (Disa) Bjornson, and they settled on a farm adjoining his fathers'. Six children were born to this family: Cecil, Margaret, Agnes, the twins Norman and Ralph, and Shirley. Norman and Ralph were the first twins born in the community, which was the cause of much excitement and also the topic of conversation for some time.

Gisli or Jim as he was called, married in England during the first World War. He later married again in California.

Waldemar married Violet Cook and they took over the original Sveinson farm. They were blessed with three sons: Allan, who farms at Innisfail and twins Kenneth and Keith. Ken farms at Markerville and Keith is in Calgary.

Sigurd moved to Central British Columbia where he married and raised three daughters: Thora, Joan and Barbara.

Louis married Iola Griffiths and they purchased the farm immediately south of the original Sveinson farm. No children were born to this union.

Dora married Howard Johnstone, also of Markerville and they now reside at Nanaimo, B.C. They have four children, all living at the Coast; Joyce, Grace, Sylvia and a son Leslie.

Dora is the only surviving member of the original Sveinson family as Groa and all the other boys have passed away.

The only humorous incident of note that comes to mind happened as follows: When the model T. Ford car became popular, John decided that he should buy one. However, he only drove it once. Apparently he got in it and started off, but when he came to the gate he did not know how to stop the thing, so he crashed right through the gate. From that day on, one of the boys did the driving!

Obtaining food, clothing etc., in those days was quite a problem. Because the creamery had been built, they were able to sell cream for cash. The Icelanders were all good sheep men, so they carded their own wool and the women knitted socks, mitts, sweaters etc. Also, they were good fishermen and took the advantage of the abundance of fish in the Medicine and Red Deer Rivers. They used to dry the fish and thus were able to store large quantities for winter use.

One of the big problems to them and other early settlers was the crossing of the Rivers, as bridges had not yet been built.

The older Sveinson children attended school at Tindastol, the younger ones attended the new school at Markerville which was built in 1910.

John Sveinson died at Markerville on May 11, 1933.

Mrs. Sveinson died at Markerville on March 22, 1939. They are interred there with their children Groa, Tom, Waldemar and Louis.

JOHN SVEINSON by Violet (Cook) Sveinson

Mr. John Sveinson came to Markerville district in 1902 from Churchbridge, Saskatchewan. He and his wife Thora, were both born in Iceland. Mr. Sveinson was a farmer. He raised mainly sheep and milk-strain cattle. He, like most of the pioneers, traded farm products for groceries. Mrs. Sveinson made most of the clothing from the sheep's wool. She washed it, carded and spun the yarn and knit it into garments—even underwear. Their early neighbors were Dan and Holgar Morkeberg, B. Bjornsons, Johannsons, Johan Bjornson, Stephensons, John Benedictsons and G.E. Johnsons.



John and Thora Sveinson

Children:

Groa married Erik Erikson — died 1971 at Tindastoll

Thomas married Disa Bjornson — died 1931 at Tindastoll

Gisli married Mary — lives in Bloomington, California

Waldie married Violet Cook — lives at Marker-ville

Siggie married Edith — died 1970 at Canoe, B.C.

Louis married Ida Griffith — died 1966 at Tindastoll

Dora married Howard Johnston — lives at Nanaimo, B.C.

John Sveinson died in May 1933 at Tindastoll; Thora in March 1939 at Tindastoll.

EDWARD G. SWANKE by Mrs. Elma Henderson

Edward G. Swanke, my father, came from the vicinity of Moscow, Idaho arriving in Innisfail in March, 1914. He was born at Cornelius, Oregon on January 5, 1886. He felt the opportunities would be better for raising his family here as well as a chance of getting ahead in his farming.

His wife and two children, Walter and Elma, came with him by train and on arrival in Innisfail stayed at Whitcomb's rooms and restaurant. He then bought some land and purchased some livestock. He had a very difficult time to get a start. We lived with Mr. and Mrs. Mainwaring until we could get into a home of our own.

Mother was the former Florence Lindsey, born in Little Rock, Arkansas. My parents were married at Grangeville, Idaho. There were two children Walter who married Bessie Carpenter and they reside at Billings, Montana and Elma (me) who married Byron Henderson and we live in Billings, Montana.

Our first neighbors were Henry Hemken and Charles Biggs. There were many storms and very cold winters that we encountered. Our family lived a clean, decent and hardworking life.

I recall the first picnic we went to. It was held in the yard of Mr. and Mrs. Ted Songhurst. It just poured rain. My brother and I attended school at Hill End. Miss Annie Fowler was my first teacher there. Some I attended school with were Annie Pixley, Daisy and Marjorie Healey and Ruth Egger.



Walter and Elma Swanke, feeding young horses.

Others engaged in farming that became so well known to us were the Frank Laings, Snyders, and Ted Songhurst. They were all such friendly kind and hardworking families.

Father passed away in May of 1964 and is buried in Billings. Mother is still living in Billings (1973).

PEOPLE



Wm. Playle, the photographer who recorded so many early scenes of the town, with a young lady riding the usual side-saddle of the times. (photo taken May 15, 1894). Mr. and Mrs. Playle first homesteaded in 1892 close to town and until 1894 lived in tent shelters, cooking out of doors, before building a log cabin. Later they moved into town where Mr. Playle had a photo studio and his wife had an art and gift shop on main street next to the water trough. They had a family of two girls and three boys; their daughter Chrissie married S. P. Fream.



Innisfail Musical Group 1905. Shipley (sitting); Geordie Kirkham, Gardner, Tom Kirkham, Chatterly and Bear.



A Sunday at Dodd's homestead: L. to R. Will Watt, ?, Bob Sharpe, Paddy Ryan, Dr. Doug Lyon, Oscar Watt.



Shaping a shoe on the anvil — August and Norman Kremer, 1910.



Bob Smith, tinsmith and inventor of "Spark Arrester" for the steamers.



Sam Hornett and Asa Ford and others sawing wood.



Early Pioneers: Ernest Hansel, Jacob Schafer, Otto Krause, and John Smith.



Taken 1918, in front of the Royal Hotel Pool Room: Clem Thompson and Frank Tams (pool sharks).



L. to R.: Walter McKenzie, Ivan Parcels, Norman MacLeod, Archie Hoar, Bill Howard, R. J. McMahon, Bill Sinclair.

WILLIAM TAMS by Alberta (Tams) Graham and Frank Tams

William Tams, born in England, was a merchant in London when he married Sarah Ann Courtenay from Devonshire, England. In 1889, Sarah's brother, Bill, left England for Innisfail. Bill Tams had always wanted to farm, so in 1891 he, his wife Sarah, five children, and father-in-law John Courtenay left England by boat; then by train to Calgary (the end of the line then) and to Innisfail by team and wagon which was purchased in Calgary. This wagon is still owned by William's son, Frank.

Our closest neighbors in the early years were Wm. & Charlie Gunston from Ontario. The second winter we lived here was one of the stormiest and coldest we can remember (1893). There was so much snow it was impossible to get to town. The coyotes followed behind the sleighs like dogs, and prairie fires were always a dread in the early days. Butter and eggs were traded at G.W. West's for groceries and clothing. A good supply had to be bought at one time as it was hard to get into Innisfail because of snow in the winter and in summer so wet the wagons got mired. There was always the fear of an Indian outbreak and wild animals were also a danger.

Most of the early families ate rabbits and as a steady diet they became a little monotonous. Here is a little rhyme we remember:

Rabbits young, rabbits old,
Rabbits hot, rabbits cold,
Rabbits tender, rabbits tough,
Thank the Lord I've had enough.

May, Alberta, Jack and Frank were born in the Aberdeen district — Alberta was the first of the Tams family to be born here. We went to school at Aberdeen and can remember teachers Miss York and Miss Graham. Charles and Jack Tams were good cooks; they cooked in mining and lumber camps (Coldspur Mine), hotels and restaurants in B.C. Charles was in the army during WWI.

Sarah Tams died in 1924 and William Tams in 1947. They had nine children:

George married Eva Nicholson of Markerville; four children: Thelma, Walter, Robert and Mary. Thelma married Robert Mitchell; Mary married Clarence Cunningham. George died in 1941.

Maude married Charlie Springgay.

Charles and wife Lena have six children: Sarah, Margaret, Fred, Rose, Alberta, and Glen (deceased). Charles died in 1948; Lena is living in Edmonton.

Rose married William Colgate; no children; Rose is still living in Spokane, Wash. and is 84 years old.

Florence married Charles Steele of Texas; three children — Charlie, Mary and Billy (who drowned as a teenager). Florence died in 1923.

Alberta married Dave Graham; one son William lived in Calgary. Dave died in 1972; Alberta is living at Bonnyville.

May married David Scott; six children all live in Vancouver. May & David deceased.

Jack married Jean Frazer in 1922; 5 children; Jean died in 1972; Jack lives at Marysville, B.C.



William Tams

Frank married Alys Butler in 1926. They moved to their present farm in Aberdeen in 1937 but continued to farm the home place until 1942. The home farm was sold in 1946. Frank is now semi-retired on the farm which his son, Mel, has been running since 1965. Frank and Alys have five children:

Florence married Ray Queseth; two children — Gregory Dean and Twyla Annette, attending Innisfail High School.

Frank William married Shirley Taylor of Pentticton; three children — Susan Lynne, Robert and Brian.

Marilyn Lorraine married Eddie Martin; five children — Wendy Lee, Valery Ann, Darcy Edward, Bradley Thomas, and Tracy Frank, all attending Innisfail Schools. Marilyn later married Grant Peden.

Charles Melvin 'Mel' married Marianna Carscadden of Grande Prairie; three children — Richard Gordon, Shelley Lee, and Alys Mae; living on the family farm.

Donna Dorise married Ralph Cook; live in Red Deer; one daughter Gail Diane.

THE STORY OF H. MAYALL TAYLOR by Fred Taylor

Harry Mayall Taylor was born in Lancashire, England Dec. 4, 1874, and attended school in England before coming to Canada to the N.W.T. in 1889. His parents returned to England a few years later. He, and his brother Sydney, stayed in Canada to make their home.

He married Miss Lucy Noel Punchard at Gleichen, Alberta on July 20, 1910. Mother came from Kirkby, Lonsdale, Westmorland, England in 1908. Mother's family started the Punchard breed of horses.

Father and mother moved to Cluny, Alberta, where he owned a small store; he sold lumber, hardware, and machinery mostly to Indians. While at Cluny, Fred, Jame, Berry and Sam were born. They had many Indian friends at Cluny. After selling the store at Cluny he came to Innisfail in 1917 by train; it took two days to make the trip. They settled in the Oklahoma district, about twelve miles west of Innisfail. Another son, Tom, was born in the Innisfail hospital. I went to the Innisfail school for only two months. My father made our livelihood from farming. Mother helped all she could; she enjoyed picking wild fruits and she made jams and jellies for the long winter.

While we were living in Oklahoma, our first neighbours, Mr. & Mrs. Mark Hocken, and my parents were very close friends until my parents passed away. In 1919 we moved to the Gordon School District where my brothers and sisters and I attended school. Miss C. Campbell was one of the teachers who taught us. Father was a member of the school board for a good many years. Both parents were active in the community and the church. Mother and Father loved music; she played the piano and he loved to sing. He sang many songs at school concerts. Mother played the organ for church services, at school concerts and for social evenings. Brian Kelly bought the land we lived on in the Gordon district.

In May 1928 Father and his sons Sam and Tom went to England. Sam and Tom stayed in England and took their education in a boy's boarding school. Tom joined the R.A.F. and Sam returned to Canada in 1933. Mother, Jane and Betty went to England in 1928. Jane and Betty attended private school for one term before returning to Canada in 1929. Fred went to England in 1929 to visit the family. The family returned to the Innisfail district where they resided until 1945.

The family friends were: Mr. & Mrs. F. Sanborn; Mr. & Mrs. E. Dunk; Mr. & Mrs. Nobel Robinson; Mr. & Mrs. Sam Hamilton; Mr. & Mrs. Frank Cur-tice; Mr. & Mrs. Mackenzie-Grievies; Dr. & Mrs. Pruitt; these people were our neighbors.

The story I remember Father telling to us about his early days was one that took place in 1889. He and his brother Sydney, brought 300 horses in or around Glenfell, N.W.T. and herded them across the country to Edmonton for the Klondike Gold Rush.

They had five children: Fred, Jane, Betty, Sam and Tom.

Jane — married Dave Buckler, they have four sons and one daughter, and are residing at Sidney, B.C.

Betty — married Edward Howard, they have two daughters and one son, they live at Innisfail.

Sam — joined the RAF when he had completed his education in England. He has served 38 years in the RAF and is presently stationed at the Ministry of Technology in London. Tom was stationed in Singapore when Japan declared war in 1942, he was missing several months, and was eventually transported out by a boat that had standing room only. Tom has travelled to several places throughout the

world, but has never returned to Canada. He married Pat Vinnell in England, they live in Seven Oaks, Kent. They have one daughter Susan, who is a very talented up-and-coming young actress on English stage and TV.

Fred — I married Catherine Spencley who arrived from England in 1927, and saw Innisfail for the first time on May 7th; we have two sons and one daughter. Elaine who married Lorne Rasmussen of Calgary; they have two sons, are living in Kamloops, B.C. Doug, our oldest son, married Margaret Ernst of Wimborne, Alta. They have two daughters and are living in Calgary. Jim, the youngest, married Charlene Gudmunson of Sidney B.C., where they live; they have one son and one daughter.

My parents retired to Vancouver Island in 1945 to live at Sidney, B.C. Father gave Easter lillies, raised in his green house, to the Anglican Church in Sidney every Easter from 1945 until 1965. Mother passed away in the Rest Haven Hospital Oct. 25, 1965. Father passed away in the same hospital Dec. 2, 1967. They both are laid to rest in the Holy Trinity Anglican Church yard, Patricia Bay, B.C.

THE TEDESCHINI STORY by Mrs. I. Tedeschini

Isidoro Tedeschini was born in Antrodoco, Italy, May 6, 1894. Having a brother in Calgary, he came to the new land in 1912 seeking the opportunities this new land was to offer. He was only here fourteen months when W.W. I broke out. He enlisted in 1914 from Calgary and went overseas. He was taken prisoner in Austria in 1916. The prisoners were put out on farms, but treated well. After his release he returned to Calgary.

He opened his first shoe repair store in Didsbury making shoes when desired. He decided to move to Innisfail two and a half years later and found a farmer friend who moved him and his belongings here. He only had \$4.00 and offered it to the friend who refused to take it. It was in 1922 that "Charlie" Tedeschini opened his store in Innisfail to carry on the trade he had brought with him from Italy. He brought something else from his homeland too, and that was a great love for music. It wasn't long before



L. to R.: Mario, Vince, Ramo, Mrs. Tedeschini, Mr. Tedeschini.

Charlie formed a band from among the young people of the Town. Considering the cultural climate of the then small town of Innisfail, this was indeed an accomplishment. Instruments were found, begged, bought or borrowed, many of them somewhat the worse for years of inactivity and each band member somehow managed to get together a simple white uniform. Four months after the formation of the Innisfail Band, Charlie Tedeschini led them in the Calgary Stampede parade.

For over 40 years, Charlie Tedeschini taught music to youngsters, never asking for or even expecting any remuneration. He would have band practice every Sunday and if he had been conducting the Coldstream Guards, he couldn't have taken his work more seriously.

An intense, volatile man, Isidoro "Charlie" Tedeschini could be counted upon to break at least one baton per rehearsal and always ended up conducting with a rung of an oak chair.



Tedeschini Band. Photo taken at the Red Deer Exhibition 1932 where the band accompanied a "Dancing Dogs" performance. Seated in front row: Bill Paul, Bruce McKay, Jack Metcalf. First row: Jack Metcalf, ?, Hill, Jim Metcalf, Jim Rawlings, Gordon Hurry, Tom Kirkham, Jim Hopkins, Art Hetherington. Second row: Gordon Metcalfe, Bill Griffith, Phil Marshall, ?, Albert Freeman, Stan Hodge, Jack Jackson, Dave McKay, H. Osborne, Andy Graham. Third row: R. Freeman, A. Sick, W. Jackson, Don Ball, T. MacLeod, B. Dodd, E. MacLeod, Jim Benton, Russ McElroy, Harry deLong. Fourth row: Duane Watt, Jack Curry, Mel Cole, Bud Kirkham, Charlie Tedeschini — Band Master, Alex Dodd, Bob Stuart, F. Hill.

Mrs. I. Tedeschini (the former Mary Grasse was born in Antrodoco, Italy in 1905 and came to Calgary in 1910. The Tedeschini's were married in Calgary June 6th, 1926 at St. Angels' Church.

The first neighbors of the newlyweds were Polly & Bill Rawlings. "They were so good to my husband who had made his home with them before we were married" recalls Mrs. Tedeschini. Polly Rawlings taught the bride all about buying food and the customs of the land. "Polly was such a happy person".

"We used to visit with the George Kirkhams and would enjoy Mrs. Kirkham's spectacular grape jam. I remember at 9 o'clock, Mr. Kirkham would wind the clock and this was to tell us it was time to say good-night."

The Tedeschini's had three sons: Vincent: who is carrying on his father's business in Innisfail m. Colleen Todd in 1964 and they have 3 children: Venise, Deneen & Todd. Mario m. Betty Grant in 1954 and they have 4 children: Sandra, Gina, Lisa & Paul. Mario is practicing medicine in Edmonton: Remo m. Ruth Jones in 1963 and has 2 sons: Mark & John. Remo is with the R.C.M.P. as Sgt. and residing at White Rock presently.

The three Tedeschini boys attended school in Innisfail and were fortunate in having Mr. Willis, Mrs. Hodge and the Coles sisters as teachers.

"My husband was a member of the Innisfail Legion until his death giving him a membership of 29 years. I am the only active charter member of the Royal Canadian Legion and have a life membership card."

Isidoro Tedeschini passed away in 1951. He will ever be remembered by so many to whom he gave so much in music. He is interred in the Innisfail Cemetery.

HISTORY OF THE TESTERS by Frederick Tester 1964

Moses Wildman, my Grandfather, came west in 1887 looking for land. He travelled on foot over the country between Calgary and Little Red Deer where he took out homestead papers on a quarter section neighboring the Sinclairs, Browns, Bluffs, Wrights and Frasers. He started some buildings that summer and returned home to Ontario in the fall. The next spring he returned with his family including his elder daughter Mary, her husband Ed Tester, and her young son, myself.

The Testers stayed in Calgary most of the summer of 1888. My dad got work helping to build the Alberta Hotel and in the fall he worked as a ranch hand and mother as a cook at the Scarlett's Stopping House about forty miles north of Calgary. They worked there for about 2-1/2 years. During this time a daughter Annie was born and because I was picking up undesirable language from the men around, I was sent to live with my grandparents in Little Red Deer in 1889, where I stayed until Mother and Dad came to the district to homestead in 1891. After moving onto the homestead, three more daughters were born — Louise, Francis, and Theresa. In the fall of 1895 Frances died of pneumonia. We were all educated at the Little Red Deer school and in Innisfail. The LRD school was opened in April 1896 with four pupils — George Sinclair, Tom Duncan, Ham Duncan, and myself. Dad was one of the first trustees and Miss Maggie Duncan was the first teacher.

The country was very dry in the early days and until about 1899 the Eagle Creek and Buffalo Creek were both dry and the Little Red Deer River so low it could be forded on foot almost any place without getting your feet wet. About 1899 the weather changed to the wet years; the creeks began to run again and

the sloughs had four or five feet of water in them. Trails were almost impassable.

The first house we lived in was built of logs with a sod roof which often leaked for hours after rain had stopped. We children used to turn over the benches, that were used for chairs, so that their legs would be in the air and pretend we were going for a boat ride.

There were lots of Indians moving around and it was not unusual to see some nearly every day. They mostly travelled in small bands of from 15 to 20.

Dad and Mother lived on this homestead until 1920 when they decided to retire and they moved to Calgary. They have both passed away — Mother in 1925 and Dad in 1931. My sister Annie and my sister Theresa have passed away and Mary Louise lives in Calgary.

I was married in 1912 to Miss Minnie Scott, from New Brunswick, who came west in 1910 to teach at the Gordon School. We had two children, Edwin William (Ted), born Mar. 31, 1914 and Agnes Louise, born June 8, 1919. After renting land for a number of years, we moved onto the old homestead when Dad moved to Calgary. We lived there until 1945 when owing to ill health I was forced to quit farming and we retired to Innisfail. As we look back, those were the happiest years of our lives.

by Minnie Tester, 1973.

My husband, Fred, passed away Sept. 25, 1966 and I moved to the Autumn Glen Lodge. When we retired from the farm, our son Ted left Milo and took over our farm. He married Winnifred Wainwright on Oct. 14, 1939. Ted died Jan. 18, 1963 and Winnie is now teaching in Bowden. They had two children, Gayle (Mrs. Jack Olsen), Penhold; and Dwayne, an electrician in Calgary.

Our daughter, Agnes Louise, married E.C. Chute on Jan. 1, 1939, lives in Edmonton and had six children: Stephen, Jerry, Judy, Shirley, James and Robert.

THOMSON STORY by Frank Thomson & Dorothy Sibley

Frank Thomson was born in Quebec City in 1864. He came to Calgary in 1883. He met his wife at Rocky Mountain House where he worked for the Hudson's Bay Co. She was the daughter of an Indian Chief belonging to the Stony Tribe. They were married at Morley by Rev. McDougal. They first moved to the Clear Water where he traded with the Stony Indians. They then moved to the Red Deer River, just west of Innisfail, where he ran the ferry until the bridge was built.

Mr. Thomson then went to Innisfail where he ran the feed mill and lumber yard for Archer & Simpson. There were eight children in the family: Joe, who married Florence Tuff and they had 4 children. Joe held numerous positions and excelled at baseball. Annie was a practical nurse and later went to Calgary. Frank was a soldier in W.W.I, returned, and was then employed as an automobile mechanic. He and his wife Annie had one daughter. Frank resides in Calgary. Sophie was a teacher and married an engineer on the C.N.R. at Kindersly, Sask..They had



Frank Thomson, Sr.

no children. Camille (Mike) was an apprentice blacksmith and welder. He married Miss Dolphin and they had 3 children. Katie (Mrs. Wilson) won many trophies in sports, particularly basketball. She resides in Lethbridge. Marguerite (Mrs. Mrstik) resides in Calgary and has one daughter. A child died at Clear Water.

Mr. Thomson used to bring home spruce gum, a treat for the children — (the Barwis children as well as his own). He would chew it and then divide it out. Mrs. Thomson used to make mocassins and her husband would bring home furs that she could use. She never learned to speak English. She would talk to the children in Cree, but always spoke Stony to her husband. The children would understand, but always answer in English. Her brother, Angel Manachose, lived with the Thomson family and was well known by everyone.

Frank Jr. served in the army in 1915 and was wounded in France in 1917 and invalided home in 1918.

Mrs. Thomson died in 1919 and her husband died in 1920.



Mrs. Frank Thomson, Katie and Marguerite.

AUSGAR THOMPSON by Andy Thompson

Ausgar Thompson was born in Iceland and immigrated to Canada settling in Winnipeg. His wife's name was Valgerdur. The family moved to Calgary in 1891 and lived in a log cabin on 8th Ave. and 2nd Street. This cabin is now at Heritage Park in Calgary. They moved to Innisfail by ox cart going to the Markerville district, around 1895.

Ausgar Thompson passed away in 1923 and is interred in the Innisfail Cemetery. Valgerdur Thompson died in 1940 and is interred beside her husband.

The children were: Margaret who married Sandy Fisher; Octavious who married Sigurbjurg Nordal; Emma who married Charlie Lynum. He passed away in 1913 and then Emma married Fred Whitelock. Charles Thompson married Gladys Thompson of Calgary.

THE PETER TORESEN THOMPSON FAMILY by R.N. Thompson

Peter Torsen (Thompson was the name adopted after coming to North America) was born on the family farm, Aavangen, at Lora, Norway on April 5, 1852. Between 1872 and 1882 he was a sailor. In 1882 he left Norway in a sailship and settled in Duluth, Minnesota where he was a stonemason in the summer and a lumberman in winter. He was married in June 1887 in Duluth to Annie Slettehaug (born April 1, 1862 at Leisja, Norway). On May 3, 1901 he came with three friends to 'the best area available for homesteading north of Calgary.' The families followed, arriving in Innisfail, May 9, 1902. The trip took one week from Duluth, travelling via CPR. They went by wagon from Innisfail to their homesteads in the Markerville district. One log house sheltered the four families until more houses could be built. Peter and Anna were neighbors to the Morkebergs. Besides farming, from 1902 to 1912, Peter and his son Theodore hauled Morkeberg Creamery butter to Innisfail, returning with supplies for the Markerville stores. Marvin and Ted hauled mail to and from Innisfail by stage — they charged \$1 for passenger fare. Markerville has had daily mail delivery from before 1910. In the early days the teams were driven across country; after the first world war, when road allowances and fences were developed — the farmers worked on the road to pay their taxes — a more definite trail was followed. The early mail carriers were given lots of errands to do in town by the settlers on their route, and the Innisfail businesses catered to them for this business. Other early mail carriers were J.M. Johnson, Joe Johnston (Harold J.'s uncle), Copeland (Mrs. Perrott's granduncle), Barney Humphert; Bill Johnson and Meldrum were the first to use an auto, but reverted to horses whenever the roads were bad.

Peter can remember the last few cattle drives before the advent of roads and trucks. Most of the cattle were bought on the one day in the fall as three year olds. They were fattened on the prairie wool grass; grain was scarce; occasionally empty troughs were put in the cattle pens so that buyers thought they were grain-fed. Cattle were trailed with horses into



Mr. and Mrs. T. O. "Ted" Thompson.

Innisfail — they were backed up for miles and their owners had trouble keeping the herds separated until they were weighed and loaded into the freight cars. Most were bought by Blair McMillan and Jack Harbison.

Peter and Annie's children were:

Theodore Olaf. Born Nov. 3, 1888.

Peter Albert (Bert). Born Nov. 17, 1890 married Elsie Ramage. Died Nov. 30, 1968.

Marvin Ingvar. Born Jan. 7, 1893 married Irma Caesar. Died June 25, 1960.

Ida Marie. Born Mar. 14, 1895 married Harry Low. Died Apr. 25, 1970.

Oscar Norman. Born June 13, 1900 married Ida Flotten. Died Jan. 31, 1960.

Thora Matilda. Born Aug. 31, 1897 married Harry Hansen. Died Feb. 1971.

Peter Gustav. Born May 29, 1903 married Rae Porter.

Gudrun Alice. Born Feb. 15, 1906 married Bruce Smith.

Robert N. Thompson:

Theodore left his family to return to Duluth, Minnesota where he married Johannah (Hannah) Olufson. They returned to the Markerville area in 1917 where they farmed. They had six children:

Robert Norman. Born May 17, 1914 at Duluth.

Grace Arlone. Born June 11, 1916 at Duluth; died Mar. 23, 1922.

Howard Peter. Born Nov. 24, 1919 at Heckla. He was an RCMP officer; then an Agriculturalist Educator in Ethiopia 1945-48 and Cultural Attache in Washington, D.C.

Grant Albert. Born Apr. 4, 1922 at Heckla; now Dr. Grant Thompson at Stettler, Chiropractor.

Arlone Mae. Born May 16, 1924. Died Sept. 18 1927.

George Douglas. Born Mar. 2, 1927. Died Jan. 6, 1938.

Robert attended Grades 1 to 9 at Heckla School, Grade 10 at Dickson, and Grades 11 and 12 at Innisfail. Teachers were Elsa Gunderson, E.W. Willis, Iris Milligan, Robert Warren — a great teacher, Mrs. Aylesworth — our class all went places.

Robert can remember F.O. West, Jacksons, Maces, Jordans, Blair McMillan, Millers, Hodges, Dr. Dorsey, Dr. Wagner, Dr. Carscallen, Dr. Green.

Mrs. Dr. Dorsey helped me more than any other single person — drama, public speaking, has been most important to me. Willis was a great principal.

I was educated in Alberta, Iowa, South Carolina, and British Columbia holding degrees in Educational and Business Administration and Chiropractic. I taught school at Heckla School for three years and practiced Chiropractic at Innisfail for two years. I was a scout as a boy at Red Deer and was Scoutmaster of the Innisfail Troop for three years. Bandmaster Tedeschini taught me music; I played Baritone and Trombone with the Innisfail Band for five years.

Early Innisfail businesses I remember are G.W. West Stores; Hodges Grocery; Blair McMillan Cattle Buyer; Jacksons Creamery; Miller of the U.G.G.; Tedeschini Shoes.



L. to R.: P. A. "Bert" Thompson, R. N. "Bob" Thompson, T. O. "Ted" Thompson and P. G. "Peter" Thompson taken on the 60th Anniversary of the Thompson arrival in Innisfail (1962).

During the war I served as an officer with the RCAF Air Cadet Training Programme in Canada and later established the Imperial Air Force Academy in Ethiopia. I served for fifteen years in Africa, eight years as Senior Educational Administrator and advisor with the Imperial Ethiopian Government and Haile Selassie I, Emperor of Ethiopia; and seven years as Chairman of the Mission Council on Education with the Sudan Interior Mission; established a Leprosy Mission amongst the tribal peoples of Southern Ethiopia. I have travelled extensively in Africa, India, Pakistan, the Middle East countries, Europe, and Southeast Asia as a result of assignments and missions in these countries during the fifteen years of African service and subsequent years of political service. Returning to Canada in 1959, I entered the Political field and served six years as National Leader of the Social Credit Association. I was first elected to Parliament in 1962 from my home constituency of Red Deer; in 1972 retired from politics to take up the work of Christian Higher Education at Trinity Western College at Langley, B.C.

In 1951 I brought H.D. Makonnen, Duke of Harar, and Princess Sara (Haile Selassie's children) to Innisfail — the first royalty to visit the town.

R.J. THOMPSON by R.C. Thompson

My father, R.J. Thompson; my mother, Sarah (Ashmore) Thompson; her parents, Mr. & Mrs. Ashmore; and her brother, Mr. C.F. Ashmore, all came to the Innisfail district together from England.

My father was a tailor by trade, not much use in the N.W.T. in that day and age as there was no sale for suits; so father got a job buying grain to feed the horses that were being used on the C.P.R. construction work, through the Crow's Nest Pass (Alberta and B.C.) I imagine the horses and mules would be better fed than the men working on the job, as the contractors would have to buy the animals, but not the men. I was born on my Uncle Ashmore's place in Horseshoe Lake district; my brother Joe and I spent our early years on the homestead in the district and had our schooling in Innisfail.

The first neighbors of my early years on the homestead were the Robert Smiths, and the two Mather brothers, and the Ashmores. These all lived on the same section of land. The Mather brothers built their log house that they were living in to prove up on the homestead astride their two quarters of land, but as they often disagreed, we wondered how they made out when they were not on speaking terms.

One of my most vivid memories was a terrible hailstorm on June 22nd, either 1902 or 1903. June 22nd was the Annual Race Day in Innisfail. A good number of the residents were Englishmen, all proud of the horseflesh they owned and on race day they proved who had the best race horses. The site of the race track is where Dodd's Lake is today.

Our early recreation was walking, horseback riding and shooting. Everyone had guns and there were no restrictions on hunting. There was no waste then; we only hunted for food.

Our teacher in the one room with grades one to five was Mr. Robert Archer. I think I was about the youngest pupil — some were in their teens or perhaps older. I remember the Wests, Lauders, Vartys, Simpsons, Constantines, St. Denys (John was one of my special pals in those days), the Barwis boys, Shep and Dewey; Bryans, Dodds, Kremers, Wilsons. Mr. Archer was in full control; if he decided some pupil was to be strapped, it was applied when and where needed and I have no memories of any parent asking to have the teacher fired. Quite a change today.

Early families I remember: The Wests, merchants; Currie brothers, Sam and Alex, merchants; Archer and Simpson, building; Fred Archer was a brother of our teacher; Dr. H.B. George; G.T. Lundy, the Alberta Hotel keeper; H. McDermott, jeweler; P.L. Grasse, the homestead inspector and a trader of reknown — one needed to be alert when dealing with that gentleman; F.M. Oldham, barrister; Fred Rogers — a snappy dresser with the waxed mustache; S.P. Fream and later his brother E.J.; the Day sisters, Stiles; J. deLong; the George Kirkhams and Tommy White; Fleet Kirkham was one of my schoolmates; Mrs. Varty Sr. was my Grandmother's dressmaker; I remember going down to the station on the one-horse

dray (Beattie was the driver, I think), and the load he had at that time was one carton of Royal Yeast cakes and one caddy of McDonald Chewing Tobacco.

My mother, Sarah (Ashmore) Thompson, passed away in 1898. My Grandfather, Mr. Ashmore, died Feb. 6, 1899. My Grandmother and I lived in Innisfail in a little house built and owned by Sam Codington. My brother Joe and I enlisted in the 187th Batt. and served overseas with the 50th Batt. C.E.F. from 1916 to 1919. My father worked and lived in the City of Red Deer until coming to Kimberley in 1925, to live with my brother, Joe who was working for the Consolidated Mining & Smelting Co. of Canada, now known as Cominco; the company I worked for also for 33 years until going on pension in November 1959. My father died at Kimberley in March 1926.

Joe Thompson married Gertrude Pearson Kimberley. Three children — two daughters, one son.

R.C. (Clem) Thompson married Helen Hovey, Innisfail, in Calgary on Nov. 9, 1922. Two children: Lee — born in Innisfail. Now married and living in Kimberley; two daughters — Caryl and Susan. Lee served overseas in the 1939-45 show. Marlene — married Sept. 1956 in Trail, B.C. Born in Kimberley, B.C. They have three daughters.

SVEN & MARY THOMPSON by Myrtle Quartly

My great-grandparents, Svend Torstensen and Marit (Mary) Olstatter Thompson arrived in the Poplar Grove district in the year of 1899. They were both born in Oppland, Norway in 1839 and were married there in 1864. Their six children were all born there before they migrated to America in 1888. It took them a month to cross the Atlantic in a sail boat. After ten years in Garretson, South Dakota, they came to Canada to take up homesteads. In Norway, Sven Thompson had operated a flour mill driven by a water wheel. They homesteaded in the Hill End district, where their first home was made of logs with a sod roof. They farmed with oxen and horses to improve their homestead. Sven Thompson passed away in July of 1905, but his wife lived until June 1919. They were both buried in the Innisfail Cemetery. After Mr. Thompson passed away, his wife and sons left the homestead and moved about two or three times until they finally settled in Elnora about 1911.

They had four daughters and two sons:

Bertha Thompson married Charles Biggs in the United States. They moved here and settled on a homestead east of Innisfail in 1898. They raised seven children.

(Emma) Inga Marie married William Reeves. They had seven children who all grew up in the Innisfail district. One grand-daughter, Mrs. Johnson Campbell still lives in Innisfail. (see Reeves story)

Mary Thompson married Zane Biggs (brother of Charles) in the United States, then moved to the Innisfail district. They had two sons and two daughters; Mrs. Myrtle Moore is still living on the home place in Innisfail. Wallace suffered a stroke and is in the

West Park Nursing home in Red Deer. Zane Biggs died and later Mary married Frank Pearce.

Lena Thompson married Ed Lee in the United States. She and her children moved here with her parents, later they went back to the States.

Tom Thompson joined the Army in 1916, was wounded in France and invalided home in 1918. He married Lotus Montgomery of Innisfail. They moved to Elnora. They had five sons and one daughter. While in Elnora he operated a blacksmith shop with his brother Teeman. He and Teeman also did carpentry work and built quite a few buildings in the Innisfail district, log as well as timber.

Teeman remained a bachelor until his death at the age of 85 years.

TOM THOMPSON by Lester Thompson

Tom Thompson (my father) came to the Innisfail district in 1911. He bought a quarter section of land with buildings on it from William Chambers in the Mayton community. Dad was born at Summerside, P.E.I. in 1880 and in 1912 he went back to the island province and married Jemima Champion in Kensington P.E.I. and they came west to try their hands at farming.

At that time there was considerable open range land to the south-east of Innisfail where my dad was able to run 60 to 70 head of cattle; and he also raised horses. In 1916 my uncle, Ben Champion, came into partnership with my father and they rented some land from John Saunders. Ben stayed with us until 1920 when he was able to establish himself on his own land.

In those years in the Mayton community, farmers, had a problem in getting their crops threshed. My father was one of six farmers who bought their own threshing outfit, a Rumley oil pull tractor and a Rumley separator. It was known as the 'syndicate outfit' and it worked in the neighborhood for several years.

I remember a fine spring evening in May of 1919 — the cows and calves were all on the open range to the north of us. My dad had a box of salt by the road fence and when our cattle came down the road off the range he would push the box of salt out on the road so the cattle would get some, as he did not want to provide salt for all the range cattle. That evening most of our cattle came home for salt and stayed there most of the night. The next morning it was snowing and blowing a real blizzard, which lasted for three days, with snow piled in our lane so deep that the men could not ride a saddle horse out to the road. My father's cattle came through the storm alright because the few that were not at home broke into a fenced hay stack on the range to get feed and shelter. His horses fared pretty well too as he had them in a pasture along the creek with some bush in it.

Our nearest neighbors in the first years on the farm was the Wilson family, about a mile to the north of us. Along with some of the neighbors, we had a telephone line hooked up to the top wire of the fences and the Fred Schaefer family acted as central.

My father went to Innisfail when he needed supplies or had stock to deliver. My mother, sister, and I would go to Innisfail about twice a year. Being 20 miles from town, we had cattle buyers and horse buyers who would make it a point to stay at our place overnight as they drove through the country. They would hire a team and buggy with driver to guide them to places where cattle or horses might be for sale — usually from Frank Anderson livery in Innisfail and either Frank, or Jack Varty would be the driver.

By 1919 the men were coming home from the first World War and land was in demand. In 1920 my dad sold his farm and enough livestock to stock it to a soldier settler name of Scotty Reid. He then bought the home quarter of the Simon Fead land 8-1/2 miles from Innisfail. Land prices went up after the war and my father paid what was considered an exorbitant price of \$50 an acre for his well improved land in 1920. The great influx of settlers on to the farm land made feed for livestock scarce in 1920 and prices went to \$80 a ton for hay and 25c a bundle for green feed.



Tom Thompson

Our first school teacher was Dorothy Rawlinson (now Mrs. Frank Leslie and still in Innisfail). She boarded at our place while she taught school at Grahamston, as did many more young girls who taught there over the years, and I want to pay a lasting tribute to these dedicated young women who set such a high standard for us kids to live up to.

During the war years, prices for livestock improved. In 1919 my father received \$140 for a three year old steer, whereas before the war \$40 was about a standard price. At the same time he sold a large Berkshire sow on the market for \$80, then considered

a lot of money. A good matched team of draft horses would sell for \$500.

Frank Esgate and his family came from Idaho in the spring of 1920 and lived right across the fence from us. Mrs. Esgate was a great church worker and one of the 1st members of the Grahamston W.I. I remember a group of W.I. members in our end of the district getting together for an evening trail ride. They rode any horse that would tolerate them and they were a sight to behold; some of their names: Mrs. Esgate, Mrs. Claude Carter, Mrs. Bob Aird, Mrs. Alex MacDonald.

In 1924 my mother's uncle, Donald Campbell, came to make his home with us. This devout old gentleman had been a missionary carpenter in China for 27 years. As he puttered around the farm he sang hymns in both Chinese and English.

Tom Thompson died in 1927 at the age of 47 years. My mother, my sisters, and I stayed on the farm and we all helped to keep things going through the early 30's. When I look back on the past I think what a wonderful woman my mother was. Before she was married she had worked as head waitress in large restaurants in Boston, Mass. and her life on an Alberta farm must have been lonely and hard to cope with at times. Although neither mother or father had a great deal of education in school, they seemed to know how to educate themselves and use their knowledge to their advantage. My mother was a good business woman and a humorist and understood how to run a farm.

I (Lester) was born in 1913 in Calgary and my sister Florence was born on the farm in 1914. In December of 1920 my youngest sister was born, also on the farm. My parents named her Annie Laura. She got her education at Grahamston school and when she grew up she married Frank Baker. They had one daughter, Elaine. My sister passed away at the age of 21 years and Elaine is now married to Robert Stuart and lives in Calgary.

My sister Florence married Ralph Clark in 1935 and she and Ralph spent a year in Newfoundland before settling down to farming in this district; they have four children: Dale m. Leon Fead; living at Raven. Hugh m. Darlene Osguthorpe; living at Red Deer. Karen m. Oliver Marshall; living at Innisfail. Garry unmarried and living at home.

I married Dorothy Newton of Penhold in 1937. Our first son, Donald, was born in 1940. A second son, born in 1942, is Thomas Allan. Our daughter Doreen Anne was born in 1950 and our youngest son Daryl was born in 1951. Over the years we were able to acquire a little more land and it seems as though we have raised a family which has a love for the soil as they are all on farms today. Donald m. Linda Christenson in 1970 and lives beside the Grahamston school. Doreen was married in 1969 to Rudy Klassen and they farm at Rocky Mountain House. Daryl m. Glenda Lockhead in 1972 at which time Dorothy and I sold them our home quarter where I had lived for 52 years. We moved to the Joe Murgatroyd farm,

which we had bought in 1960, where we are now sort of semi-retired or maybe just tired.

My mother passed away in 1941 at the age of 57 years and is buried in the family plot in the Innisfail cemetery with my father and my youngest sister Annie.

Daryl and Glenda's little girl Terry Lynn Thompson is of the 4th generation to live on the old Thompson place. Our second son Tommy is still a bachelor and he owns a ranch at Ricinus as well as working in forestry as a research technician for the Dominion Government.

Like my father I seem to have always had a love for horses and most of my recreation time has been spent hunting and fishing; or just riding the trails in our foothills to the west or the high mountain country of the Banff National Park.

GEORGE THURSTON by Wm. G. Thurston and Spence Thurston

George Thurston was born in Ontario on Nov. 28, 1866. In Ontario, near the town of Orillia, he worked in a mill, sawing lumber and cutting shingles by hand with an axe. He married Edy Teresa Sparks, (a daughter of John and Helen Sparks who also came out to the Innisfail district), at Puslinch, Ontario in the 1880's. George, Edy and their six children, and George's younger brother, John A. Thurston, came out in 1902, March 8th to take up a homestead 18 miles east of Innisfail, where they lived until 1921 when they retired to make their home in Innisfail.

Visiting with neighbors was the one important recreation with dances in homes and schoolhouses and baseball games. Our first neighbors were Mr. J. Layden and family, Mr. B. Hibbert and family, Mr. T. Sarchet and family, Mr. C. Peters and family. We went to Calder school; the first teacher was either Mr. Newman or Mr. Phillips, and Miss Whealon was also one of the early teachers.

One winter when food was scarce, Father shot coyotes, skinned them, and sold the pelts for about \$1 each. One year he shot over one hundred coyotes.

Father went to town one cold winter day, taking a neighbor with him. On asking if he would like to get out and walk for a while, Joe Carl said, "No, I would rather freeze like a man, than run like a dog."

Their favorite driving horse had a neat system for getting rid of lady drivers. If it wasn't allowed to go home, the ladies were dumped from the buggy, often in the middle of the slough.

George Thurston had the telephone central at his house, (Hazel was the chief operator), which still stands on the farm at NW 12-35-26-4. He also was postmaster for the Milnerton Post Office in his home from 1908 to 1921 when it was closed and became RR1, Knee Hill Valley with son Spence as delivery man for many years. Later the farm was taken over by son John and then sold to John Calvert.

George worked with Mr. Fay Stiles in the Alberta lumber Yard in Innisfail and during 1925-27 was in charge of the A.L.Y. branch in Delburne; following which he retired to live in Innisfail.



Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Thurston

George Thurston died Oct. 12, 1931; and his wife Edy April 7, 1954; both buried in Innisfail. Of their eight children, Ina and Spence were born in Knee Hill Valley; the rest in Ontario. Children are:

John Thurston — married Belle Kerr; (dec.); married Saidee Baker; 3 children: Harvey; Dorothy (Caspell); Edie (Phillips). John deceased.

Myrtle Thurston — married John Calvert; 5 sons, 3 daughters. Deceased.

Nellie Thurston — married Ernest Hill; Deceased 1926; 4 children: Lewis; Isabelle (Frechette); Elmer; Stan.

William G. (Bill) Thurston — married Nina Randall; living in Edmonton; 6 children: Purvis; Pearl (Wightmore); Donald; Eileen (W. Fox); Marjorie (Bonneux); Olive (Harris); Anne (Griffin) (adopted).

James (Jim) Thurston — married Agnes Garvey; second marriage; 2 daughters; Deceased 1972 buried at Winnipeg.

Harold Thurston — married Marjorie Wakey; 5 children: Ella (Ferguson); Muriel (Stephenson); Kenneth; Paulette (Brazil); George.

Hazel Thurston — married Fredrick G. Smith; dec. 1965 (Fred living); 2 children: Orville; Ina (Oszli).

Ina Thurston — married Paul Long; widowed, living at Lacombe; 5 sons: Tom, Larry, Ted, Kenneth, and Glenn.

Spencer Thurston — married Irene Marcy; living at Knee Hill Valley; 4 daughters: Ila (Sloan); Donna (R. Scarlett); Lorna (R. Jones); Penny (Paul Hemingson).

John, Will, and Jim served in World War I; Will and Jim in World War II.

JOHN A. THURSTON 1881-1969 by Spence Thurston

Uncle John came west with my dad (George Thurston) and took up a homestead later marrying Cecillia (Ciss) Marshall. They had two girls, Mary

and Florence. In the early twenties John moved to Vancouver where he worked in a lumber mill near Haney.

Mary married John Wingrove. They had two boys, Doug and Ray, and one girl, Margaret (Peg). After John died, Mary married Al Wooton and now lives in Vancouver.

Florence married Walter Griffiths. Their girls, Shirley and Beverley, and son Laurie all live in Vancouver.

Aunt Ciss still lives in her own apartment at the age of 75. John died in 1969, and his ashes were returned to his Alberta home as he wished.

FRED TINGLE STORY by Susanna M. Tingle

Fred Tingle came to the district now "Cottonwood" in the fall of 1905 and filed on a homestead NW1/4 16-35-35. He came to live there permanently in 1906. He was born in Sheffield England in 1870 and came here from Hamilton, Ontario. The lure of the west and promise of land for \$10 for 160 acres were probably features in his coming here in 1906. He came by rail accompanied by his wife Ann Elizabeth Sacks of Hamilton (whom he married in 1903) and their son Fred Jr. who was a baby at this time. Previous to coming here he had worked in a soap factory in Hamilton. After his arrival here he made his living off the land. The only outside work available was road work which each land owner was allowed to pay taxes with.

They had a cow or two, a few chickens and a pig or two. The first home was a sod covered shack which later proved to have been built on or just over the line of the adjoining homestead. Trips were made to Bowden and Innisfail by horse and wagon where butter and eggs were traded for necessary supplies. Anyone who happened to have a spring seat for his wagon had a luxury.

Fred A. Tingle was born in June of 1905 in Hamilton, Ontario. He married Susanna Houston in Dec. 1931. Ernest Tingle was born in Jan. of 1907 at the farm home here. He married Ferrol Cunningham



Fred Tingle and family by log house built by him and neighbors in 1908.

in 1934. In Sept. of 1908 a third son was born at which time his mother paid the supreme sacrifice of a pioneer mother. She was buried in the Bowden Cemetery . . . the baby died a few weeks later. Fred Tingle then took the two boys Fred and Ernie back to Ontario where he left them with relatives and returned to his home in Alberta. At the age of 5 yrs. Fred Jr. came back with a neighbor who was coming back west to be with his father. Ernie returned soon after his father remarried.

In 1911 Fred Tingle married Gulinda Mynott who had come from England to keep house for her brother Arthur Mynott. Nellie Tingle had been keeping house for her uncle Fred for a short time and she married Arthur Mynott.

Some of the early neighbors were the Gus Caldwells. Mr. Caldwell hauled mail from Bowden to Mountain House which post office was on the Caldwell farm. The name was later changed to Moose Ridge to avoid mail going to Rocky Mountain House. The Fordyce family, the Buchan family and the Cunninghams and the Laids were also early neighbors.



Breaking land at Tingles with oxen.

Later, J.A. Laird moved to Innisfail where he was secretary of Poplar Grove.

One incident weather-wise which perhaps had the most effect on this area was the heavy rains in 1915 which caused the bridge on the Red Deer river at Moose Mountain to wash out.

For entertainment it was mostly the gathering of families for dinners and sing songs.

Fred and Ernie rode long distances to school. Fred's first schooling was at Red Raven until after the bridge washed out. One teacher he had was Miss Clarice McKain. After the bridge washed out they went to White Creek School which was held in what was known as Ryves House. Mr. Harold Mann was one of the teachers there. Before Ernie's schooling was completed there was a school here.

Mrs. Caldwell was remembered for her ability to keep her cook stove going and turn out good meals with green wood which she sawed and split herself.

Mrs. Mary Fordyce was fond of riding her pony and very proud of the fact that she was over 50 before she ever rode.

One story I remember Mrs. Tingle telling of her arrival in the district was that she had come from England to Calgary and north with her brother Arthur Mynott. When they reached the Red Deer River there was a ferry but Arthur thought he could give his sister a better sample of the west by fording — which he did. Water came into the box with a few of their parcels floating. Linda was very frightened and said she was going back to England, but her brother ended this idea by telling her they would have to ford back again to get to the train.

The Mary Riley W.I. was formed in 1914 in the district of Garrington and drew members from this area until 1933. Early members were Mrs. Fordyce, Sr. and Jr., Mrs. Tingle, Mrs. Scott, Mrs. Fulton and Mrs. Cunningham.

Fred Tingle Sr. died in Sept. 1943, Gulinda (Linda) Tingle died in February 1947 and Fred A. Tingle died July 1964.

Fred A. Tingle had 3 daughters and one son: Nessie, Doreen, Winnifred and George. George is farming at R.R. 3 Innisfail.

Ernie had no family.

Their achievements centered on the fortitude of being a brave pioneer who stayed through sorrow, and joy to help make the country a better place.

CHARLES TOLLEY by Hazel, Dell & Mrs. Chas. Tolley

Charles Tolley was born 1871 (Jan 25th) in Shropshire, England. While in England he worked in woolen mills. He left England at the age of 18 years to join his brother, Sam & Fred Tolley at Moscow, Idaho. He worked in the wheat fields there for a while and this was his first experience in farming.

In July, 1892 they started on their trip to Alberta in a covered wagon with a small stove, a tent, few bags of grain for their horses, axes, hammer, saw, nails, trunk for clothing, food and bedding tucked inside. They brought 20 head of horses with them.

It took them nearly a month to make the trip. When they arrived in Calgary they stayed overnight, then started north on the old Indian Trail. This took them to a beautiful camping sight where they camped over night. In the morning, they found they were on the banks of the Coulee. There was plenty of good grass, water and shelter here for their horses. There was a lot of spruce trees for building so they called the place "Spruce Coulee". They were so pleased with the location, they decided to stay right there. Charlie stated his claim for a homestead there, Fred filed for one about 3 miles further north, Sam got his two miles further north (which is the Grahamston district now).

They started right away to build a fence to hold their horses. The fence was made of rails. They cut spruce trees for logs, peeled and hughed them then sawed all the corners straight. They built the house on the Coulee bank with these. It was a 12X24 two roomed house.

They made a rail framed stable and covered it with straw. They put up hay for the horses, did some ploughing (this was more for a fire guard). They cut down trees and sawed them into foot lengths and split them for firewood.



Mr. and Mrs. Tolley making plans.

Charles married Cora May McCormick in 1889. She came up from Idaho in 1894. There were seven children: Myrtle b. March 1900, m. Isaac Wright in 1920. She passed away Aug. 1935 at Newton B.C.: Leonard L. Tolley b. 1902, m. Kathleen McCarthy. He is a retired grain buyer and resides at Nanton, Alberta. Hazel M. b. 1903 and lives in Innisfail: Lillian I. b. 1908 in England, m. Richard (Dick) Pixley. He is a retired gas & oil dealer and they live at Innisfail: Delma E. b. 1910, married Frank Marshall and they live a few miles east of Innisfail: Kathleen b. 1912, m. Ed Skodopole and they farm in the Olds district: Vivian b. 1918, m. William Ure and they live on a farm three miles S.E. of Delburne. The first neighbors near the homestead were Jake Schaefer on the south, Tom & Matt Hamilton on the east — Ernest Hansel on the north, a widower joined



Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Tolley.

by his daughter and her husband and family Otto Krause.

The Tolleys' had six cows, milked them by hand. The milk was put in cans in a cool place, then the milk was drained off. The cream was then churned into butter. Mom made it into prints and took it to G.W. Wests' store along with eggs for groceries. Eggs were 10c-15c doz. and butter was 20c lb. They killed prairie chicken, ducks and rabbits for meat. Once in a while a cow or pig was killed.

The neighbors would get together for parties and visiting and these get-togethers were always looked forward to. By now, a frame barn had been built. It was a real land mark and was quite high and had a shingled roof.

In 1903, help was needed for haying. Dad went to town to see if there were any young fellows who wanted to help. He talked to a fellow from Australia who wanted a job. The next morning this lad walked 12 1/2 miles arriving in time for supper. He was pleased with the looks of the place and stayed until October when he went to England to see if his people would help him buy the farm. He arrived back in March, helped put in the crop and then took over the farm. It was Sir George Lee Warner.

Mom and Dad decided to go back to England and left Innisfail early in May, 1904. They took the train to Calgary, then on to Toronto, then changed trains again for New York. Here they boarded the steam ship Majestic. They travelled for a week across the Atlantic arriving in Liverpool, England. They went from here to Harrogate where Dad's sister Lizzie Robinson met them. They intended to stay in England and rented an Inn. They stayed here for 2-1/2 years. It was then that Dad went to work at the Railroad Shop. He remained there for a couple of years and they then decided to return to Sunny Alberta.

March 19, 1909, they boarded the steamer Victoria at Liverpool and arrived at Halifax a week later. It was raining so hard they couldn't open the hatches to take out the luggage, so they went to St. Johns.

They arrived back in Innisfail April 1, 1909. It was a slushy, spring day. We hired a livery team driven by

Jack Varty, to go to Angus Mathers' place. Mrs. Mather was Mom's sister. We stayed there until we moved to Uncle Fred Tolleys. We found a place of our own in 1910. It was south of Grahamston school. Some of our neighbors were: Herbert Mayo, Harry Wills, Fred Wade, Norman Cameron, John Carr, Tom Marks, David Burns, Sam Dixon, Simmon Fead, John Buckham and the McDairmids.

We all attended school at Grahamston — walking or riding horseback (often three to a horse). We took turns, a month at a time to clean the school. In really cold weather we spent most of the time around the old heater in the middle of the school trying to keep warm. The first teacher was Miss Maggie Burns. Dad was a trustee and sec/treas for the school for years.

We used to look forward to the visits of the "Rawleigh Man"—Mr. Welsh. We always had lots of company and good sing-songs around the piano, card parties sleigh riding down the coulee hills, skating on the sloughs kept us amused. A group of us put on a play "The Deacon Slippis" at Grahamston, Mayton and Innisfail. The proceeds went to buy a piano for the school.

We all milked cows, helped with the work in the fields, stooked grain, stacked it, helped with haying, and picked roots. We didn't have a tractor, but did have a "490" Chev car. We farmed this place until 1945 when we moved to the edge of Innisfail where we still are. Dad passed away June, 1946 and is interred at the Innisfail Cemetery. There are 106 decendants from the Tolley and McCormick union.

SAMUEL RESTALL & BERTHA CECILIA TWISSELL by Ashford Restall Twissell

Samuel Restall Twissell was born in Gloustershire, England January, 1850. He was the eldest son of a baker, Issac Restall & Edith Twissell. This family originally came from France.

Samuel Twissell came to Canada as a settler in 1891. On arriving at Calgary, he bought a team of bulls (oxen), a wagon, plow and Harrows for \$262.00 and started out for Poplar Grove (Innisfail). He forded the river on the way and got as far as the North Hill in Calgary the first day. He filed on a homestead, 160 acres south east of Innisfail (now owned by Frank Rand).

His first log shack had a sod roof which would drip for days after every storm. He managed to get shingles from Calgary and they came up by train from Calgary. The trainman started throwing the shingles off the train along the track from where Bowden is now. Father had to go and pick them up.

Father used to milk cows and he and other settlers would take the milk to be separated at the milk factory (on Jack Moore's farm). The factory would keep the cream and the farmers would take the skim milk home to feed calves & pigs. Moore's used to keep pigs in a flat below the factory which was up on a hill. They would pipe the buttermilk down to the pigs. They used to make butter at this factory.

My mother was the only daughter of James and Louise Wells. They had two sons Lat and Ernest. (Ernest went to Chili). My mother and her mother came



The Twissell homestead.

from Toronto in 1892 where they had been since 1884. Her brother A.T. Wells, had homesteaded here previous to their arrival. This land is now owned by Harry Moore. My uncle (A.T. Wells) came in the early 1890's and his wife, Edith Mary was the first organist of St. Marks' Anglican Church in Innisfail. After she passed away, my mother played the organ for a number of years. The A.T. Wells had two daughters: Dora & Lily.

In 1897 Pa married Bertha Cecilia Wells. In 1898 a son was born — Ashford Restall (me).

In 1899 my parents sold out and we three returned to England and stayed there for four years. On returning to Canada we came back to Innisfail and purchased a farm on Antler Hill where we lived until 1935 when we came to live in town.

In the early days my father was plowing with his oxen when the heelfly attacked them. Up went their tails and away they went on the dead run and headed for the big bush about 4 miles east. When heelflies get after them, cattle always stretch their tails straight up and run and run . . . Another time when father had work horses one of which was very balky and when this horse decided not to work he would lay down and make out he was going to die. Once he lay down in the barn yard, right in the water. Pa was working it over with a club when Mother came from the house and protested "That horse is sick and stop whacking it". Pa said "No, it is not sick and I will show you." He took off the harness and when he took the halter off, up jumped the horse and away down the pasture it went kicking its heels!

There were hard times for most in the pioneer days and I recall when Mr. & Mrs. McClure, (where Jack Wagers now lives) made butter and took it to Calgary by team and buckboard and tried to peddle it all around Calgary. They couldn't sell it or even trade it for groceries, so they had to bring it all the way back home.

Prairie fires always came in the fall and spring. Plowing fireguards was necessary around the feed stacks and graineries. Wet sacks were used to beat out fires around buildings. Many times my folks would

work all night trying to stop the fires. I remember well a fire that came across our Antler Hill farm on an Easter Monday in 1904. Some people had been burning hay in sloughs and the fire got away on them. The wind changed and blew right over our farm. I recall the rabbits partridge and other wild game coming right into our house huddling under the kitchen table to get away from the fire.

My mother used to ride an Indian saddle pony (none of which were too well broken) and the cinch came loose and the side saddle turned and she was dragged all the way to town (about 3 mi). Mother was a crack shot with a hand gun, rifle and shot gun.

The neighbors around the homestead that I remember were the McArthurs, Rogers, Jones and Gibson Munro. At the Antler Hill farm, neighbors we had were the Jim Malcolms, A.C. Browne, McClures, Sam Daltons, A. Archibalds, E. McAllisters, Stevenetts, Lalors, Doan and W. Quantz. In town there was George Bryan, F.M. Oldham and the Wests I remember well.

In the early days there was a cricket club and my father used to play. People were more formal in the early days than now. We held many picnics at our farm and a clipping from the paper read as follows:

ANTLER HILL (Aug. 3, 1911)

"On Wednesday of last week Hillcrest was the scene of great enjoyment, when some forty people gathered there in response to the invitation of Mr. & Mrs. Twissell to help their son Ashford to celebrate his birthday. Games of all kinds were provided, the Merry-go-round which Ford had so ingeniously built being the chief attraction. After dinner the crowd drove to the summit of the hill, but the view was spoilt by the smoky atmosphere. At six o'clock the bell called all together again for supper. The appreciative appetites of all made the good things prepared by the hostess vanish like snow in the sun. With many thanks to Mr. & Mrs. Twissell for the happy day and good wishes to Ford for the future, the merry crowd departed."

In 1928 I, Ashford married Gwendoline Williams from B.C. and we have two children: Charles Restall

(m. Margaret Anne Steele,) has 2 children Lori Anne & Allan Restall. Rosa Margaret (m. Cpl. Kenneth Hugh Hodgins) and they have 3 children Kathleen Hope, Daniel Ashford, Thomas John.

My parents, my wife and I and Rosa and her husband were married in St. Marks Anglican Church. Our two children and I were also christened and confirmed there.

CECIL TYSON by Seth Cummins

Cecil Tyson was my cousin. His parents lived near Vancouver and both died in the flu epidemic of 1918. Soon after, Cecil, just a young boy came to Innisfail district to live with his uncle William Clifford. He remained here for a number of years.

He was well known north and east of Innisfail working for several years for L. Domoney. He also owned a farm near there for a short period. He became a good carpenter and built several buildings and assisted with the construction of the Radar station east of Penhold. He liked hunting and fishing and enjoyed going out West with his jeep.

He was very good with horses and rode as an outrider in the chuck wagon races in Calgary.

He suffered from heart trouble and ended with heart surgery which proved fatal. He died Nov. 1964 and is buried in the Innisfail Cemetery.

VANDAELE by Joe Vandaele

My parents, Mr. & Mrs. Vandaele were born in Belgium about 1870, emigrating with their families to the U.S.A. about 1890 — my mother to Washington, D.C. and my father to California. They married in Butte, Montana in 1897. They came to Innisfail in 1903 and homesteaded west of Markerville where they lived the rest of their lives.

My sister Blanche and I were born in Butte. My brothers Frank and Harry were born in Markerville. Blanche married Hal Berry and farmed at Raven for 20 years before moving to Red Deer. Blanche now resides in Delta, B.C. (Tsawwassen). My brother Harry worked in Calgary until 1934 when he went into the far north where he trapped and prospected for four years. He then came back to Calgary where he got married and ran a mink ranch until his death. Frank and I farmed the old home place for many years. Frank married Margaret Reighly in 1932; he married his present wife, who was Joan Thorlakson, about 1958; they now live in Victoria B.C.

My father came to the Markerville district from Butte, Montana, in a box car with three horses, one cow, and household effects. He put up a house and a small barn and some fences and then went back to Butte to get mother, Blanche, and I. We soon got another five cows which we milked. In the first few years before there were any roads my Dad would only go to Innisfail about twice a year and get a big supply of groceries from G.W. West trading a butchered beef or hog.

Breaking up the land was a very slow process; the first few years the brush had to be cut with an axe and plowed with two horses. I remember one summer when dad had plowed his second patch and a bad prairie fire came across; he took mother and us kids

along with most of the clothing and bedding onto the breaking in case we lost the buildings; but he managed to get a fireguard around the house and barn. Two or three times my father had to buy a couple of horses to replace the ones he lost with swamp fever; finally he couldn't afford to buy more horses and broke four of his steers — he had a lot more power to break the sod and was able to get more done.

By then I was old enough to drive the oxen and able to work down the breaking. The oxen were very slow but economical; we would work them from early in the morning for about four hours and then turn them into pasture until about 4 p.m. and then work them about another four hours; they ate only a little grain. I started breaking about 1917 with a heavy strong plow and eight horses. We got our first tractor in 1928 and then were able to handle the heavy brush and trees.

In the early days we raised a very big garden and we had a root cellar where we could keep fresh vegetables all winter.

The Craig school was built in 1909 and the first two years the school opened the first of March and was operated right through to the end of the year.

I remember Sandy Dundas, hotel man; G.W. West's General Store; Fumertons' dry goods; Rogers' Hardware; George Ingham, jeweller; Aspinall's real estate; and Frank Anderson's livery barn.

WILLIAM AND MATILDA VARTY AND FAMILY by Mrs. Reta Cole

My father, William Varty, and his oldest son Charles arrived in Innisfail by wagon and a team of horses in May of 1892. With that wagon came a load of lumber and a few other necessary articles for the building of a home.

Mother and the younger children remained in Calgary. Those children were Thomas, Etta, John, Albert and Laura. They were to stay in Calgary until my father could arrange some sort of place for them to live in. It was a four day trip on the old old Edmonton trail.

My father wrote my mother, saying he had found an ideal spot in every way in the tiny bush village of Innisfail. It was a perfect place to build, and to start a permanent home. How permanent it was to be, he hardly realized! It was Lot 6 and 7, Blk 13, Plan L of the village of Innisfail, N.W.T. Here, in 1973, the remaining member of the family still enjoys the permanence — all eighty-one years of it — in this home.

Mother and the younger children arrived in Innisfail, October 6, 1892 on the first excursion train from Calgary to Edmonton. It was the new C. & E. line. They arrived on the day of the first "Fall Fair Day" held in Innisfail. When my mother and the family stepped off the train, the town seemed to be a busy and active place. The Constantine Stopping House gave her and the family a friendly welcome to the new town. It took mother quite a long while before she could consider Innisfail anything other than the Wild West. This was what most people from Ontario called Alberta at the time.



Wm. and Matilda Varty's wedding picture, July 29, 1873.

My father and my Uncle John Varty had filed on a quarter section of adjoining land in the Antler Hill district. Father built a house there and farmed for a numbers of years. In 1904, he sold the farm to Allison Stevenett.

William (Bill) and Matilda Varty were members of the Methodist Church. Both helped to build the first Methodist Church in Innisfail. Mother was very determined to worship in her own church and willing to put a great deal of effort into the building of it.

My father had been a brick maker in Ontario, operating a rather large plant in Flesherton, Ontario. He started the first brick yard in Innisfail that was situated where the Drs' Godkins Veterinary Hospital is now. This brickyard he operated quite successfully for some years. A partnership was later formed with August Kremer.

Father was a Conservative, maybe "Tory" would suit him better. He was also an Orangeman. Other Orangemen and Conservatives at that time, that I can recall hearing about were: Geordy Powers, the Kirkhams, Dave Arnell and G.W. West. It seemed if people came from Ontario they were Conservatives and if they were Conservatives they became Orangemen.

Father was a born adventurer. This was partly the reason for his decision to move the family to the Wild

West. In the car of settlers effects they brought some furniture, a team and wagon and some other machinery. I think they brought a cow as I have heard stories regarding the care of the cow my mother had in Calgary. Some of these pieces of furniture they brought here so long ago, I still have in my home.

I know that mother thought the trip from Toronto to Calgary with the care of six children was a nightmare. Father was so very desirous of getting to Alberta.

Mother found work in Calgary immediately. The Great West Garment House in Calgary was just getting started; Mother did the cutting for men's overalls, jackets etc. She did this by hand as there were no cutting machines in use then.

During his lifetime in Innisfail, father tried various business enterprises with some success, but failing health caused his early retirement. He continued as a Loyal Orangeman and was Master of the Lodge in Innisfail at the time of his death in 1912. His burial was under the orders of the Orange Lodge.

All her life, Mother enjoyed excellent health. After fathers' death she was able to carry on. The family were grown up now.

Here a great deal could be written of the appalling hardships of pioneer life, the hard won achievements, the hours she gave of herself to those less fortunate or in need. The early deaths of her oldest son and daughter, Charles and Etta left their mark on her life too.



Wm. Varty in Innisfail, 1892.

Mother was a homemaker, counsellor, nurse when needed, dressmaker and a trained tailoress. In her later years her real estate business was fairly successful.

With trust in God, great courage and fortitude, she lived her ninety-six and one-half years of life.

When she passed away in 1949, two of her large family were left here — her third son, Thomas, and the last addition to the family born in Innisfail, Alberta, daughter Reta (Cole). Mother was buried from the United Church.

Thomas passed away in 1963. All of the William and Matilda Varty family had remained in Innisfail and today no member of that particular family is left.

William Dickson Varty married Matilda Littlejohn in 1873 at Markdale, Ontario.

Born to this couple were the following: Charles William, born 1874, died 1899. Etta, born 1876. She married in 1895 to Charles Ross who came from P.E.I. to work for McCallum and Douglas for a short time and then he took up carpentry. They had one daughter. Thomas James, born 1879. He married Hattie Sonnie in 1905 and they had fourteen children (see T.J. Varty story) John Wesley, born 1881, died in 1947. Albert Edwin, born in 1884, died in 1933. Laura, born in 1886. She married John Miller in 1903. She is deceased (See J Miller story) Reta, born in 1899. Married Franklyn W. Cole in 1916. (See F. Cole story).

THE GENTLE WOMEN by Mrs. Reta Cole

Many stories are told of the pioneer men who came to the district in the early days — those who stayed on and made the history of this town so colorful, and those who left somewhat defeated —

This story is about two gentle women, staunch of heart and determined to do their share in making their new home and town a good and Christian place in which to live.

One, a tiny pert woman of strong Presbyterian faith, Mrs. John A. Simpson and the other was Mrs. Bill Varty, my mother.

This story began in 1892, a few days after my mothers' arrival in Innisfail. She had made inquiries regarding the Methodist Church and was dismayed to hear there was not one. There was however, a Presbyterian Church under way and although not finished, services were being held there. A short time later Mother met the John A. Simpson family and after a bit of church talk, Mrs. John A. told Mother that she already had a Sunday School Class started and asked Mother if she would like to start a Methodist Sunday School class using the Presbyterian Church to hold it in.

Mrs. John A. was in the southeast corner of the church and mother was in the north west corner. This would be the arrangement they would have until the Methodist Church would be built. Mother was well aware of the fact it was a Presbyterian Church and not a Methodist, but the details worked out and on Sundays Mother found herself in the one corner with her half dozen little Methodists and Mrs. John A was in her corner with her half dozen little Presbyterians.



Mrs. Wm. Varty

There were no pews in the church yet, but John A. Simpson had supplied planks and nail kegs for them to sit on. Well, things went along fine for sometime. Mother was nearer to the wood stove and she helped to keep the stove going while in Class. Mrs. John A. and Mother became very good friends.

The talks continued about the building of the Methodist Church, but so far not much progress had been made in building.

One Sunday when Mother went to the Church she found three rows of shining new "Comfortable Pews" at the front of the Church. It was a day of joyful celebration for the Presbyterians. However, not all the planks and nail kegs had been removed. About half the church would still be using the planks. Mother was a proud woman and she took the new pews well in her stride — for a while — but somehow, much against her Christian belief, a strange coolness permeated the Church. There were no actual quarrels, no unkind remarks, but for some reason the Methodist Sunday School Class in the Presbyterian Church was no more.

It wasn't too much longer before the New Methodist church was erected and my parents along with many others worked extra hard in getting it built.

Well, the years went by. Mrs. John A. and Mother remained friends inasmuch as business transactions between the two families went on. Whenever there was some bickering between the two families the John A. family came out the winners, or so it seemed to Mother. Mother always remarked to me what a fine person Mrs. Simpson was, but they didn't visit back and forth. So it was as time went on that Mother became an invalid . . . and I shall always remember

the day Mrs. John A. came to call on Mother and by this time the families of each were all grown up — and they forgave and forgot and were truly happy to see each other. A warm and gentle breeze came in the window and Mother had a little nap.

THOMAS JAMES HARVEY VARTY by Reta Morphy

My father, Thomas Varty, was born in Flesserton, Ontario in 1879. He was a son of William and Matilda Varty.

Tom Varty had attended school in Ontario prior to his coming to Innisfail but did attend school here also along with Sandy and Dick Kremer and Gladys West.

He went on many cattle drives, sometimes as far as Montana, then worked with his Dad making bricks and finally turned to carpentry.

Tom Varty married the former Hattie Alfreda Sonnie, one of the most beautiful women ever to come to Innisfail, in June, 1905. Hattie was born in Gliston, Penn. in 1888. She came to Canada in 1903, going to Red Deer, then the Evarts District and arriving in Innisfail in 1904.

Dad, a carpenter, built many places that are still standing today. He could build anything. All one had to do was tell him what you wanted and he could build it. He didn't bother with blue prints and no one could have done a better job or have anything better finished.

When there was so little money to be had, both Mother and Dad, with a large family to support, were always generous to others who were less fortunate. Many coffins were made by them, at no charge. Mother would even take her own satin slip to use for lining. When there was someone in dire need, Mom could always find a dozen eggs to make a cake or cook a big pot of soup to help them out.

Mother took a very active part in several Church Ladies' Aids. She was a member and Past President (serving two years) of the Ladies' Auxiliary to the Royal Canadian Legion. She was always an ardent worker in this group. She was a member of the Pythian Sisters and a charter member of the Ladies' Orange Order. Both Tom and Hattie were good curlers and equestrians. Dad in his youth was known as a real pool shark. He was on the Volunteer Fire



Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Varty

Brigade in Innisfail, was a member of the Orange Lodge from the time he was eighteen years old. He was an associate member of the Royal Canadian Legion.

People and neighbors the Varty's knew well in the early days were: Bill Fawdry, Sandy Dundas, Tom Kirkham, Bill Martin, Tom Marks, Tom White, Joe Smith, Mr. Thorn, Granny Sergeant and Charles Whitcomb.

One time, Mr. Joe Smith, known as Holy Joe Smith, had the misfortune of having a pig fall in the well and drown. My Dad, Tom Varty, was called upon to help pull the pig out. At this time Daddy was working for G.W. West. Later in the day, G.W. asked Daddy to cut up a pig he had just bought from Holy Joe. The following Sunday, Holy Joe (a lay minister) was speaking on honesty. At this time my Dad was a regular attender at church. Dad got up and walked out of the church, chanting as he went "pork, pork, pork". My Mother often said that following that Sunday she never got "Tommie" to go to church willingly again.

Dad did a lot of hunting which supplemented our larder. I have heard him tell of shooting ducks where the Co-op store is today. Mother raised a large garden. There were many hundreds of quarts of meat, wild berries and vegetables canned each year. Dad very often took a cow or a pig for his labor as a carpenter. We always had a dandy milk cow and for many years had chickens. Mother made most of our clothing in the early days.

Children born to Tom and Hattie Varty were:

Clara, who married J. Sheremeta. They had no family. She did a lot of altruistic work for the hospital in Edmonton. She helped organize the Cancer Society of Alberta. She lived in Edmonton until her death in 1950.

George, born in 1909 — died 1918.

Earl who married Eila Manley. They have two sons Tom and Roy. They live in Bassano where Earl owns and operated a Pool Room and Confectionery.

Russell, who married Irene Oakes of Innisfail. They have one son Richard. Russell was in the Innisfail Hardware until 1940 when they moved to Vernon B.C. He was also a great carpenter and finisher. His wife predeceased him and he passed away in May, 1973 leaving to mourn him his granddaughter, "Irene".

Alice is married to B. Pegrim and she has one son, Edward. She lives in Ottawa where her husband is with the armed services.

Harvey is married to Rose Andrus. They have five children: Darlene, Cheryl, Maime (died in 1970), Billy and Walter. Harvey served in World War II with the Loyal Edmonton Regiment from 1939 to 1945. He went overseas in May, 1940 and was wounded at the Battle of Ortonia in Italy. On Dec. 10, 1943 he was taken prisoner of war. He was about twenty-two months in a Stalag Prisoner of War Camp. When liberated he was on the long march, and was stabbed twice with a bayonet. When the march started, there were over 3,000 men and less than



The family on the 50th Wedding Anniversary: Back row: Alice, Jim, Hope, Bob, Helen, Harvey, Marie, Reta; front row: Earl, Tom, Hattie, June.

1,000 survived. Harvey arrived back in Canada in Dec., 1945. For many years Harvey worked on ranches in Southern Alberta and is now retired due to ill health and lives at Swan Hills, Alberta.

Robert who married Lillian Hardgraves has three children: Larry, Russell James and Sharon. He has done building of houses as far north as Inuvik under Government Supervision. He now resides in Edmonton.

Reta who married Gordon Morphy of Olds. They had one son, Paul (deceased 1969). Reta is the only member of the family still residing in Innisfail. She is Past President of the Ladies' Auxiliary of the Legion, charter member of the Orange Ladies', Past President of the Golf Club, a member of the Pythian Sisters. Her husband, Gordon, is a Government employee in his 19th year at the Bowden Institution.

Hope who married R. Elliott of Vancouver resides in Vancouver where she is an industrial nurse. She has one daughter, Elaine.

Helen, who married R. Willock has one daughter Renee; lives in Delta, B.C.

James married Helen Sorensen and they have two sons: Allan and Colin. He is a Conservation Officer of Fish and Wildlife for the B.C. Government and they live at Kamloops, B.C.

Marie who married V. Wacolchik, lives in Calgary, is a secretary and has one son Stephen.

June who married Paul Ruback of Innisfail has three children: David, Karen and Linda. Paul is the Director of Labor and Safety for Canadian Freightways. June is manageress of a Mac Store in Calgary.

We were a large family, but a happy close family and shall always have fond memories of growing up in Innisfail with our wonderful parents to guide us along life's way.

Tom and Hattie Vartys' oldest grandchild, Edward Martin, still lives in Innisfail and they have five grandchildren here: Wendy, Valary, Darcy, Bradley and Tracy Martin.

VELGE STORY by Mrs. Georgina M. Smith

M.H. Velge (father) was born in September, 1840 and came from England to the Innisfail district in

1899. He was retired in England from managing a tobacco estate in the far East and seemed to want a little more adventure. His two eldest sons had come out to Canada a few years before. He thought it would be a chance to leave his youngest son, Bob, something to go on with.

It was by horse and buggy that he travelled from Innisfail on the trails to Knee Hill Valley. He was a strong active man for his age and a good horseman, so he thought it would be interesting to start a horse ranch. A few of his neighbors were Chris Moffat, Howard Wynn, Harry Gunston and W. Gillet.

My parents were married in 1870. There were three sons and two daughters, all grown up before he came here. Only my brother, Bob and myself accompanied them here.

For recreation we had the usual Christmas Concerts at the school house, friendly gatherings there too. My brother Bob and I used to attend dances at Innisfail and Pine Lake.

There seemed to be plenty of money around when we were there. Twenty-five cents was worth one shilling, and my father had a bank account at Calgary.

We were members of the Episcopal Church and the Methodist Church sent clergy out to give us services in the school house.

We were only there fourteen years when World War I started. Brother Bob enlisted and won a medal for courage in the field. My father rented the farm and moved to Innisfail. It was in Innisfail he died in 1925 and was buried in the Innisfail Cemetery.

Mother and I both played the organ at the St. Marks' Church. For something to do, I worked at the Bank of Commerce and for G.W. West as bookkeeper for a while.

At present Bob and I are living in Victoria.

BROSE VREELAND by Douglas Scott

Brose Vreeland came to Innisfail from Des Moines, Iowa, in 1900. He homesteaded across the Little Red Deer River in the Oklahoma District. Dave Lewis now resides on this land. Brose never married. He was a lover of horses. He proved up this homestead, sold it and then moved to the Little Red Deer District. He engaged in Mixed farming.

I remember him having a bear for a pet once. He eventually gave it to someone to go into a circus. Brose and I operated on this bear once — but it didn't help the bear!

Brose was a man of small stature, but a voice that was very loud and clear. He was a sort of veterinarian. He would only do this type of work in the dark of the moon (unless it was an emergency). He was a great man with children. He would come to town and all the children would follow him and he would take them to the afternoon show or buy them ice cream.

For farm help, he would come to town and hire transients for a few days at a time. He had his likes and dislikes and a friend to him would be a strong friend.

Some of his neighbors were John Duncan, John Brown, H.J. Scott, Jack Fry, Nat Wright and the Scarletts. Brose was tank man for John Browns threshing outfit for some time.

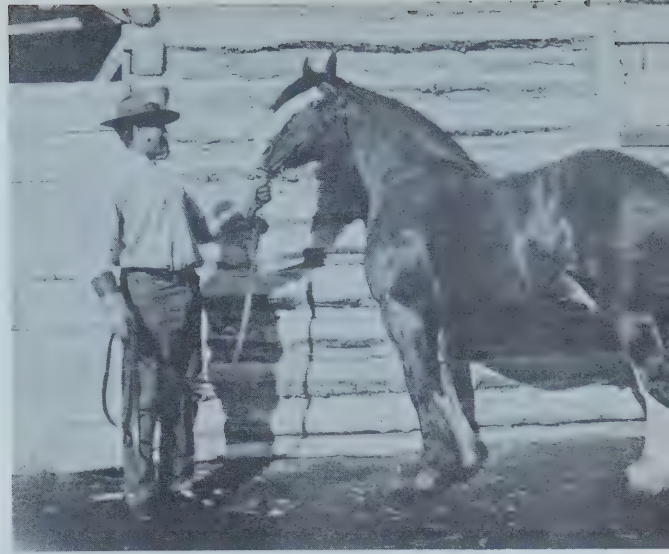
He was a superstitious man and wouldn't eat pepper (hard on his liver), never chewed or drank. He enjoyed singing and calling for dances at house parties.

Fred Hall was putting in a garden for himself and Brose when Brose became ill. He was in the hospital in Innisfail for a long time and eventually passed away at 83 yrs.

I remember Brose Vreeland as being very good hearted and most generous to anyone in need.

In 1906 Charles Newton came in first in a plowing match.

ANIMALS



James Leeson Wynn and Clydesdale.



Munro Bros. breaking land.



Plowing with three horses.



Haying with a bucking pole — Heber, Russell, and George Hargreaves and Mr. Robinson.



Hauling tamarac posts from Kevissville to Innisfail.

WILLIAM & KATE WADE by Phyllis Johannson

My father William Wade was born July 23, 1884 in Bedfordshire, England and was one of 12 children. My mother was the former Kate Clark and born June 19th, 1885 in Upper Caldecote, England. They were married in England June 26, 1904. I was first born and my sister Mabel two years younger. We were both born in England.

Dads' uncle Fred Wade homesteaded in the Grahamston district and he had met with an unfortunate accident (gored to death by a bull). His wife needed help with the farm work and she had written nephews in England asking for their help. This was why my parents, my sister and I left England for Canada May 24th, 1909. My Dad, hearing the stories about the streets being paved with gold, decided to bring his family here. It was a long difficult journey on board the "Lake Erie" ship. Half way across the Atlantic, Mabel contracted measles and so she and mother were not allowed to land at Ouebec. My Dad and I came on to Innisfail. Mother and Mabel followed in 10 days time.

Dad had been a market gardener in England. He found there was a vast difference between this rugged farm life and his life in England. He worked hard

trying to adjust but did not please his new employer. Mosquitoes, flies and bedbugs were a great source of annoyance that summer. My Dad next went to work at Geordie Powers. Here we had a home of our own to live in. Mother learned the hard way that you can't plant gardens here as early as they did in England. We next moved to Innisfail where Dad worked for Dick Kremer at the brick yard and continued there until the clay vein petered out. He got a job then with Billy Wilson in his draying business at \$2.00 a day.

My two brothers were born in Innisfail: Harry Sept. 7, 1910, & Alfred Nov. 7, 1912. Mrs. Barwis was the midwife. Dads' next job was caretaker of the new school built in 1908. Before the well was drilled he carried 2 pails of water for the drinking fountain in the morning from home and 2 more at noon. He then joined the armed forces in 1916 and was in the 187 battalion & was stationed at Sarcee Camp and in N.S. leaving Canada Dec. 20, 1916 for overseas. During leaves he was able to visit his father, brothers & sisters. He was discharged in May of 1919 and came home to his old job as caretaker of the school. He took a course in steam engineering so he could operate the new steam heat furnace. In 1922 Dad decided to try farming again with his 2 sons. He bought a farm through the S.S.B. in the Aberdeen district on the edge of the "Big Bush". Mother & Dad worked hard milking, raising pigs and chickens and working the land. Mother made many lbs. of butter and sold it and eggs in town. Dad was a member of the school board in Aberdeen and was the first president & instigator of the annual Aberdeen Picnic Assn..

Mother was an inspiration to all of us with her wit and many talents. We belonged to the Anglican



William and Kate

Church and she sang in the choir for 50 yrs. and was an active member of the W.A.

We had good friends and neighbors in Mr. & Mrs. Velge. She was the church organist for many years and Georgina (their daughter) could sing beautifully. Other good friends were the Harry Cooks, Wm. Champ, Polly & Bill Rawlings, Frank Carpentors, Barwises and Lauders. Mr. & Mrs. H. Percy, Joe & Ivy Rear, the Murgatroyds, Badcocks, Fred & Connie Bye and Mr. & Mrs. Farrant.

On the farm Mother was interested in hatching chicks and from this grew the idea of starting the Innisfail Electric Hatchery. It was established in 1933. This continued for 13 years. They sold out to Don Manuel in 1946.

In 1964 they celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary. Mother died April 9, 1966 and is interred in the Innisfail Cemetery. Dad will be 89 yrs. old in July (1973) and at present is in the Red Deer Nursing Home having spent 2 yrs. in the Autumn Glen Lodge.



William Wade dressed as John Bull, with Fred Bye's bulldog, to lead the July 1st Parade, 1915.

Both Mother & Dad were charter members and life members of the Legion & W.A.. He watched with pride the new building of the Legion.

We four children attended Innisfail school and Mabel and I attended Normal School in Calgary. Harry & Alf finished school at Aberdeen. Mabel married Don Barrett in 1937 and they had 2 sons. Mabel died in July, 1965 Harry married Lottie Barrett in 1935 and they have one son Bill Wade the 3rd. Alfred worked with Dad on the farm and married Vera Clipsham in 1936. They have 3 daughters: Patricia (Mrs. Cyril Russell), Mrs. Ronald Bowers and Betty (Mrs. Duane Michaelchuck) Alfred & Vera live in Innisfail where Alf is the office mgr. for Sparks Machinery.

I taught school for 25 yrs. I went to the Big Bend school first where Mr. John Conn and Mr. Max Edgar were on the school board. My salary was \$70 per mo. I then got a position in the Innisfail School. I boarded with the Fred Byes. Some of the other teachers on staff at that time were: Mr. E.W. Willis (principal), Iris Milligan, Dorothy Rawlinson, Nan Hodge, Leslie Chisholm & Norman Lougheed.

In 1929 I married Albert Johannson son of an Icelandic pioneer family in the Markerville district. I taught 4 more years at Tindastoll. We have 3 children: Margery (Mrs. Art McAllister) Art is a grandson of Mr. & Mrs. Ephram McAllister (Antler Hill Pioneers). They farm the same homestead land as his forefathers. They have 3 children: Terri, Wayne & Donna Lyne.

Bill also a third generation farmer on his grandfathers homestead. He married Lorna Damron. They have 2 children: Wanda & Darcy. Bill has hereford Cattle.

Marie is married to Ken Sveinson. They farm the old homestead along the Medicine River. Marie is a teacher and they have 2 children: Danny & Debbie. They live on the Dan Dee Acres and raise Simmental cattle.

After my children grew up and there was a teacher shortage I went back to school in 1951 and taught at Markerville until it closed down. I taught then at Spruce View for 15 years and retired in 1968. I am a life member of the A.T.A. and am enjoying my retirement.

LESTER O. WAGERS by the Wagers family

Lester Wagers arrived in Innisfail in 1912 coming from Denver, Colorado. He took up farming with John Honan, who came from the Eastern U.S.A. The first land was where S.A. Daines resides today. He then bought the east quarter of the present farm. Shortly after he bought another quarter from Mr. Spurgeon. Wagers have resided in the present house for over fifty years. John Honan later went to Rocky Mountain House.

Early neighbors who farmed near by were Parsonage & Holmes, Mr. & Mrs. Geo. Davidson, Dodds, Krussell's and John Barkemeyers. A lot of visiting back and forth was carried on and we often threshed for the Barkemeyers and Han Krussell's.

Lester Wagers married the former Marion Morton and they raised a family of 9 children:

Jack, who married Isla Munden, who he met while stationed in Australia in W.W. II. They have 4 children: Richard, Patsy, Pamela and Eric. They farm in the Niobe district and Jack at present is a County Councillor.

Robert, who married Jessie Cuthbertson, farm in the Niobe District and have 5 children: Bob, Peggy, Sheila, Kerry and Nancy.

Lester who married Geraldine Purcell. They have 1 son, Lorne and they farm in the Niobe District.

George, who married Margaret Smith. They have 2 children Linda and Gary and farm in the Big Bend district.

Maude, who married Geoff Handford and farm in the Niobe district. They have 3 children: Marion, David and Bill who was killed in an automobile accident in 1972.

Arthur, who married Diane Lavell and farm in the Big Bend district. They have 3 children: Wendy, Cheryl and Brent.

Ralph, who married May Huntly and farm the home place. They have 2 children: Brenda and Kenny.

Thomas, who married Shirley Dent. They have 6 children: Sherrie, Debbie, Shelly, Darcy, Darrell and Terry. Tom has a trucking operation and they reside in Innisfail.

Mary, who married Marvin Latimer. They farm in the Nesbit district and have 3 children: Dwane, Kevin and Dale.

All the family are living in the Innisfail area and all are farming except Tom.

All the Wagers children attended school in Innisfail and in the winter, the family moved into town for the children to get to and from school easier.



Wagers Family. Back row, L. to R.: Robert, Lester, George, Ralph, Arthur, Tom, Jack; front row: Mary, Dad, Mom, Maud.

Close friends of the Lester Wagers were Tommy White, Jack Thurston, Chas. Emerick, Chas Wood, Homer Carr, B. Parsonage, Bob and Rollie Morris, Charlie Hall and Alex Sneath.

In the early days a threshing outfit consisted of a man to run the machine (separator man). There were six bundle racks, a field pitcher or two and a spike pitcher. Lester owned one of the first threshing outfits in the district and travelled from neighbor to neighbor doing threshing. A crew usually consisted of neighbors, but often there was hired help looking for work in the fall. There was much hard work involved starting at daybreak and going until dark. Despite the hard labour, there was always time in the bunk house at night for a sing song or a card game. The coal oil

lantern would be hanging from the ceiling as the source of light. The Wager Threshing Crew was: Geo. Sutherland, Jack Rogers, Cecil Pugh, Geo. Crowhurst, Clarence Nichol, Ben Dolphin, Roy Handford, Ernie Hughes and John Barkemeyer.

During threshing time, Mother had extra hard work too — cooking, housekeeping and chores to be done outside as well. She would have to prepare meals for the crew as well as for her large family.

There was the run away teams and this happened at any time which involved hitching up horses to wagons. Lester, a good natured man, would always take these incidents with a laugh.

We recall the time when Dad was running the tractor on his threshing outfit. One fellow decided it was time to have some fun. He managed to find a bundle of shingles and tied them on his rack. He was pitching in the machine with Roy Handford. After finishing their loads he pitched the shingles in and you can imagine the noise. Dad was having a snooze and he jumped up at the noise, the horses had to be held down and it was a very amusing situation.

The blizzard of 1919 was a devastating time. Just to the North of us, Mr. Geo. Davidson had started seeding. The blizzard moved in and covered his seed drill except for the top of the levers which showed up above the snow. Cattle couldn't walk through the snow, so horses were brought down to break a trail so the cattle could come home. Drifts were ten feet high, covering fences, gates and posts.

Lester O. Wagers had a great humour and liked to laugh. He had a good disposition and was everybody's friend. He passed away suddenly on August 1, 1949. His widow, Marion, still resides in her home on the farm.

DR. G.C. WAGNER

Dr. G.C. Wagner known wide and far as "Hank" spent over 40 years administering to the sick in Innisfail and district.

It was on April 25th, 1914 that the doctor arrived in Innisfail to begin his partnership with Dr. A.T. Turner. It was during those years that horses were the chief means of travel because graded roads were lacking. He kept until 1953 a second car which was a 1928 model known as "Annabelle". "Why with Annabelle," he would say, "I could travel roads that even a caterpillar tractor couldn't get over."

While taking his medical course at Western Medical College at London, Ont. (where he was born), he came West to pitch for the Red Deer Baseball Club in the summers of 1910 and 1911. After his graduation in 1912, he served a year at Buffalo, N.Y. His arrival in the West was not altogether voluntary. After illness his doctors had recommended Western Canada for residence.

He had been a noted athlete during his college years — winning every foot race in which he entered — the 100-200- and 440 dashes as well as the 120 yard hurdle race. He met and conquered the threat to his health and the possibility of having to give up sports by coming west and recovering.



Dr. G. C. Wagner

He accepted a position with a construction crew on the Grand Trunk Pacific railroad which was then pushing the steel from Edmonton to the coast. He said how he walked 180 miles in 6 days carrying a 25 lb. pack on his back visiting patients.

In 1916 Drs. Turner and Wagner in conjunction with the Woods Christian Home got a hospital going. It provided a 6 bed hospital for the town. Rev. Geo. Wood, the founder of Woods Christian Home, had 16 children and a big tent outside the hospital and by fall had to move his ever increasing brood to another building in Olds and finally to Calgary. A five room nurses home was the next addition to the makeshift hospital facilities. Dr. Wagner did the shingling on the roof in his spare time. His unceasing work did much in making Innisfail Municipal Hospital a reality about 10 years later.

During the flu epidemic the two doctors used to start out in the mornings in opposite directions. They would stop at every house on the way south to Bowden and north to Red Deer. In the afternoons, they would take east and west directions.

During the first flu epidemic Dr. Wagner was serving overseas in the Army Medical Corps. He was a captain before returning to continue his work in Innisfail.

In 1921 he married Margot Blizzard of London, Ontario. They have two children, Margaret who has two sons, Donald and Bill; and Dr. Jack Wagner who has three children: Susan, Mark and Janet.

It was Dr. Wagner who chose the pasture field from which the golf course was made. He told of during his early days how on occasions the horse he would be driving would drop dead from pneumonia. He did many operations on kitchen tables and the pay isn't as today — but the dedication was there always.

Offices he held were: President of District 2 of the Alberta Medical Association, President of the Canadian Legion, Health office for the town until the beginning of the Public Health Unit, President of the Golf and Country Club. He was a Mason and a Shriner.

His son Jack has followed in the same profession also his grandson Don Tillier. At present both are practicing in Red Deer.

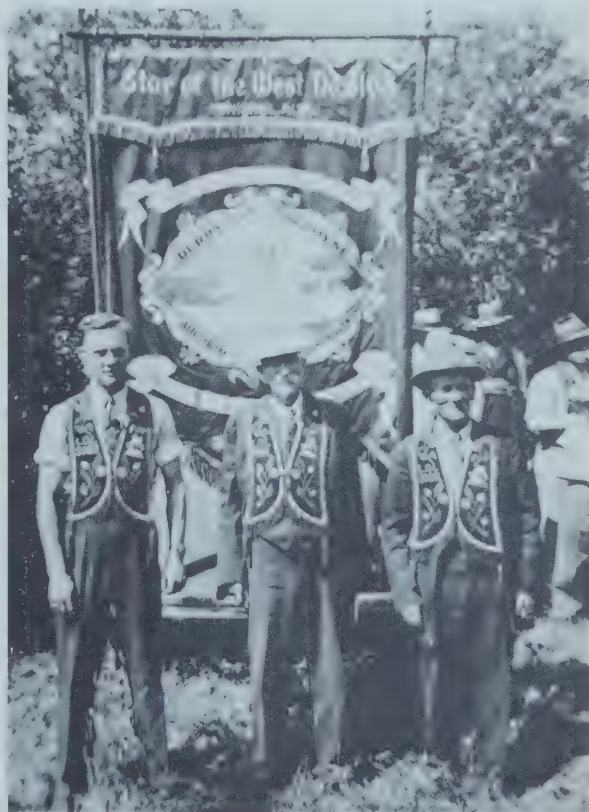
Dr. Wagner died February 28, 1955. Mrs. Wagner still resides in Innisfail.

THOMAS WALKER STORY by Jane T. Walker

Thomas Walker came to Canada in 1879 having been born in Ireland in 1854. In the spring of 1907 he arrived from Ontario, in Innisfail to go farming. He was accompanied by his sons, Thomas Charles (Charlie), John, daughter Margaret (Maggie) and son-in-law, Fred Copeland.

Before he arrived in Alberta he worked for about twenty-five years for the Grand Trunk Railway in Ontario. When he did come to Alberta, he worked as a section hand for the C.P.R. for a few years. Tom and son Charlie first rented land for their farming and around the time of the first World War, they bought a farm south-east of Innisfail.

In the early days, "Grandpa Walker" as he was known by all, told of the time he and Charlie built a log cabin on a homestead at the Clearwater. On one winter day Grandpa and Charlie rode on a sleigh to Innisfail to get supplies. It was so cold on the way



Three generations of Orangemen: Roy, Tom and Charlie Walker.

into town that they about froze — so once they did arrive in Innisfail, they never went back to that homestead again.

Toms' wife, Margaret, died in Ontario before Walkers came West.

The children of Tom Walker were: Minnie Bradley, born October 10, 1879. She married Harry Taylor from Ontario. Minnie Taylor died in 1920. Alexander George was born April 20, 1886 and married Jane T. Hill (Jeanie) and he died February, 1948. John Walter was born January 16, 1889 and died in action in August, 1918. Margaret (Maggie) was born June 15, 1891. She married Herman Barkemeyer and she died January 20, 1962. There was also a baby, Robert, who died the same year as his mother.

Their early neighbors were the Frys, John Carrs', Tom McMillan, Tom Simpsons', Lemuel Holden and Rutledges.

Grandpa Walker was an active Orangeman in Ireland and also in Innisfail. He, his son and grandson were all Orangemen at the same time here. Thomas Walker died at Innisfail August 24, 1939 at the age of 85 years. Interrment was in the Innisfail Cemetery.

THOMAS CHARLES & JANE WALKER by Charlotte J. Hoffos Granddaughter

My grandpa, Charlie Walker was born in Harriston, Ontario, April 20, 1886. He came to the Innisfail district in 1907. Before coming to Innisfail he worked in a packing plant where pigs were butchered. Grandpa said they killed an average of a thousand pigs a day. Upon arriving in Innisfail he worked with the work-crew for the telephone company hauling poles to Elnora and Huxley. It was later that he farmed with his father south west of Innisfail. He later had a farm of his own in the Horse Shoe Lake district where he farmed from 1924 to 1946. At this time he retired to Innisfail.

In 1917, Grandpa bought a new car from Kremers' Ford Garage. In 1917 the only requirement for driving a car was the knowledge of the operation of the car. Grandpa never having driven a car was given a quick lesson out towards where the golf course is today. He was then left to drive himself home.

Charlie Walker married Jane T. Hill June 29, 1918 in Red Deer. During their courting time, Grandpa



L. to R.: Douglas, Roy, Jeannie, Charles.

went over to visit Grandma and had his car. He had to drive back to his place before dark so they could put the car away. Then, he walked Grandma home across the fields.

Charlie & Jeanie had two sons: Roy George m. June Bartlett and Douglas Charles m. Willetta Burton, later married Edith Arlitt. Both sons are residing in British Columbia.

Some of the early neighbors on the farm were the Blacks, Robert Smiths, Bromans, D. Mathers, J. McDonalds, Pendergasts, A. Beer, W.C. Schaefer's, Jacobs and Krauses. They boarded the teachers for the HorseShoe Lake School for many years.

Roy enlisted in W.W.11 and was a wireless air gunner serving overseas with the R.C.A.F.. He was lost in action for 6 weeks and captured by the Germans. He spent 9 months in Stalag 7, as a P.O.W. and then was forced to march in "The Hunger March". He spent one month in Russian custody. In 1945 he was liberated to England.

Both my grandparents were active members of the Loyal Order of Orangemen.

Thomas Charles (Charlie) Walker died Feb. 27, 1948 & is interred in the Innisfail Cemetery. Jeanie still resides in Innisfail.

THE WALTON STORY by Tom Walton

My father, Michael Walton, was born in Wales, August 4, 1875. He moved to Ontario with his parents, four brothers and four sisters in 1883. My father remained in Ontario when the rest of the family decided to move West, coming to the Edwell district in 1891. My grandfather ran the Edwell Post Office for a number of years.

In 1897, father came West to start ranching. He came to Red Deer by train, then rented a horse and rode out to the Edwell district. At this time, everything was dry — even the sloughs and creeks and it didn't look like the kind of ranch land it should be so, he went to British Columbia to work in the logging camps. He worked in Golden, Revelstoke and the Frazer Valley.

He returned to the Edwell district in 1900. This time there was too much moisture so Dad and Uncle Joe moved down to the Three Hill Creek district to start their ranching. After a few years they decided to go on their own. My Uncle moved to east of Drumheller (Dorothy) and Dad moved to the Milner-ton district east of Innisfail.

My Dad first met my mother at Evarts, Alberta, while visiting his sister and brother-in-law, Jack Edwards. My mother, Marguerite Rubie Edwards, was born October 24, 1882 in London, England. She had received a business education in England. She came to Canada in 1904 to keep house for her brother Frank who at that time lived at Pine Lake. When she first arrived she went to Evarts to visit her brother Jack. After leaving Jack's, she went to Red Deer where brother Frank was to meet her. But, instead, Frank's pals, Sid Truby and Ronald Folks were there and they tossed coins to see who would take her to Pine Lake. Ronald won, so he took some food and started out to Pine Lake by team. Uncle Frank wasn't



Mr. and Mrs. Mike Walton at home, 1905.

there when she arrived at his home but she found out he had cut a finger and had gone to the doctor in Innisfail. Frank had two dirt shacks to live in and one was finished which my mother got. It had a dirt floor and a sod roof. The first night when Mother went to bed she heard something rattling in the cup and screamed. My Uncle came and said "It is only mice — go to sleep." She tried, but couldn't get to sleep and Frank finally set a trap on a beam above her head. The mouse was caught, but in the morning she was greeted by another little animal she found out was a weasel. She stayed only a few days with Frank, and moved to Mrs. Wilcox and Mrs. Wilcox came down with diphtheria and mother nursed her back to health and from that time on, mother did a lot of practical nursing.

Mother and Dad were married in 1905. Dad built a log house on the N.E. 1/4 of Section 7-35-25-W4. This land was owned by the C.P.R. They turned it back to the government and so it was up for homesteading. The house still stands today.

In those days nobody ever locked their doors so that anyone needing meals or lodgings could come in — whether anyone was home or not. The day Mother and Dad were married, they came to their new home and were welcomed by a surprised rancher and his



Mr. and Mrs. Walton, Bessie, Mary, and Tom in England, 1912.

hired hand, who were preparing for bed. So — instead of sleeping in the house, they went to the barn.

In 1906 Bessie was born. She married Walter Murphy and they live in Innisfail. They have two children: Ronald who lives in Knee Hill Valley and Betty who lives in Calgary.

In 1907, the second child was born, "Mary" who married Roy McArthur of Innisfail. They have three children: Donald Marguerite and Jeanette all of Calgary. Roy passed away in 1971 in Wetaskiwin where Mary now resides.

I, Tom, was born in 1909 and married Margaret McKay of Innisfail. We have four children, Bruce, Jack, Loretta and Donna.

My Dad purchased more land at \$3.00 per acre. The following year, he wanted to purchase more, but the price had risen to \$5.00 per acre and he didn't buy then. Later, however, he did purchase land from homesteaders Mr. Brackenridge & Baron and Eddie Kerr.

My grandmother passed away in 1912 and my grandfather in 1913. They are both buried in the Pine Lake Cemetery. It was in 1912 my parents took we three children to England for Christmas and we returned home in March of 1913.

I recall that my sisters had really scared me of school. They told me how mean the teacher was and how I would be strapped every day and made to stand in the corner and how the other children would laugh at me. No wonder I didn't want to go that first day. My mother and Dad took me to school and I wouldn't go in. I clung to the wagon wheel. Dad gave me a spanking. The teacher came out and tried to coax me in. She told my mother that I was really spoilt. With a further threat of another spanking I went in and much to my surprise, found the teacher just the opposite to what my dear sisters had told me. They should have had the spanking — not me!

We attended Arthurvale Church and years later Mother donated the family organ to this church. It is still used today. In 1916 Dad bought his first car (a model T) from Dick Kremer for \$600, brand new.

I often heard Dad speak of the cold winters of 1906-07 when some cattle froze to death standing up. In 1919, May 10th, a snow storm struck where many cattle were and they were buried alive. We were fortunate to dig some cows out which had been buried three days and still lived. In the "dirty thirties" we were fortunate in always having enough to feed the cows and some grain to sell. We hauled barley to Innisfail for 9c per bus. We sold cattle for 1-1/2c per lb.

In the pioneer days my uncle had a rifle which a good Indian friend of his wanted. The Indian had no money to buy it. An agreement was reached that they would wrestle for the rifle and an Indian woman. My uncle won the bout and they parted good friends. However, the next morning the Indian brought his woman over to my uncle which was what he had lost in the bout. My uncle wouldn't accept the woman and this made the woman mad. She called him many

names in Cree and this finished the friendship between the two men.

When I married we built our home on S.W. 1/4 of 9-35-25-W4th and continued to farm with my Dad until his passing in 1945. Mother moved to Innisfail that fall. Mother sold the homestead to Norman Layden. Mother was a member of the Milnerton W.I. for 29 years.

Our children received their education at Mount Pleasant School, Innisfail and Red Deer High Schools. The boys still live on the farms. Bruce married Ellen Pollock. Jack married Lorraine Korstad. Loretta married Laurence Layden and Donna married Bob Bodie and resides in Calgary.

I remember Mr. Foley. He was a man who walked all over the country fixing clocks. He was a "character" who wore all seasons of clothes at one time. He was the only one, however, who could fix a clock for mother.

In 1969 my wife and I moved to Innisfail where I took over as secretary of the Feeders' Association. Mother passed away April 6, 1973 and both she and Dad are buried in the Innisfail Cemetery.

During my life I have seen many changes in farm living, but I enjoyed them all and it is my hope to spend more years with friends in Innisfail and District.

GEORGE A. WALTON FAMILY by Marion Nielsen

George came with his parents, William James and Mary Walton, to Iron Bridge, Ontario from Wales in 1883. In 1892 they moved to Edwell with a family of 9 children.

George went to work at an early age. His first job was at Bob Leitheads for \$5.00 per month. Leaving there, he went to work for Tim Windrum and later went to Calgary. That same winter he worked in a logging camp in B.C., returning to Calgary in the spring. He went to a service at the Salvation Army Camp, after listening for a while he gave them all the money he had (\$2.00) but knew he would never be turned away from their camp if he was ever in need. At the door, he met Ernie Windrum and Ernie had a job for him on an Indian Reserve. He worked there at Gleichen for six years. While there, the reserve was having Lord Minto for a state visit. George was asked to dress as an Indian — face painted and to wear the traditional headdress. Leaving there about 1908, he worked for a Western Packing Company for two years. Then he got a job on the ranch of Alex Wallis — by the Red Deer River. He borrowed \$7700 from the Canadian Bank of Commerce and purchased 332 head of cattle from Wallis. It was a hard cold winter and he lost everything. In 1912 he left for Kamloops and worked on the railroad from Vancouver to Prince Rupert and at the Copper Dam until April 7, 1915. He joined the army, receiving \$1.15 per day. Prior to this he had homesteaded land east of Rosedale (9 miles from Drumheller) and had opened the first butcher shop in Munson. While in service he won the Military Medal for bravery in Action. He led

an expedition into No Man's Land. Later he was presented to the King and Queen.

Upon his return he took up land in the Glenellen district. In 1919 he married Euphemia McArthur, who was a teacher at the Mount Pleasant School. Mrs. Walton was the daughter of pioneer parents Mr. and Mrs. William Gunby McArthur. She was born in Innisfail in 1897. For many years she was a Sunday School teacher in the Presbyterian Church. She had taken her Normal School training at Camrose and also taught at the Big Bend, Oklahoma and Killam schools.

George served on school board at Glenellen for many years and Mrs. Walton was on the executive of the Glenellen Ladies' Club.

In 1957, they sold their farm to their son Cecil and retired to Cloverdale B.C. Mrs. Walton returned in 1964 for a visit and passed away in August. Mr. Walton later remarried and continued to live at Cloverdale until his death in 1972. He was 91 years of age. Both are buried in the Innisfail Cemetery.

Their family include Cecil who is on the home farm and is an active member of the Pine Lake Curling Club.

Lillian served in the women's division, R.C.A.F. and later worked in Edmonton. She married Stan Cox and resides there with their two daughters.

Marion was a stenographer and worked at the Royal Bank, Innisfail and Bassano. She married Borge Nielsen, Spruce View and has two sons, Lloyd and Stanley and a daughter Lois. Mrs. Nielsen has served on the Spruce View Home and School Executive and presently is treasurer of the Spruce Ladies Club and Spruce View School Area Historical Society. She is also a member of the Red Deer and District Foster Parents Association.

Marjory is married to Alan Anderson, formerly of Innisfail and now of Langley B.C. They have three daughters and a son.

Robert married Marlene Prohl of Wimborne and has two daughters, Joyce and Lisa and resides at Penhold. He was a charter member of the Moose Lodge at Pine Lake.

The family attended Glenellen School. Each taking their turn to be janitor of the school. The pay was small, \$5.00 per month. Cecil carried drinking water from a well each day to the school for .10c.

Dad always would break our ponies for riding and driving the cutter to school. We always enjoyed our ball games with the Howell Lake school. We would meet at the Faught farm, Friday afternoons, this being the half-way point of the two schools. In winter card parties were enjoyed by the adults of the district and the children would enjoy the sleigh rides together. Our highlight of the year was our Christmas concert. We started our practices in November and always had a full house the night of the concert and Santa never forgot any child that was there.

DR. CHARLES LYLE WARKE by the Warke family

Charles Lyle Warke married Margaret M.T. Vaughan in 1897. Charles was born in 1865, and his wife in 1876. They lived in Liverpool, England.

Charles Warke, M.D. practised medicine at Liverpool until 1905 when due to ill health, he was advised to change from the English climate. They decided to move to Canada, arriving in Innisfail, Alberta during September, 1905 where they stayed for the winter.

After arriving in Innisfail father set up his practice and also got a horse and buggy with which he made regular trips to Markerville every week for a day's medical service to the small village.

While in Innisfail we lived in a house about where Blues' Radio Shop is at present. Will and I, Charlie, went to school in Innisfail that winter with the West boys, Frank and Jack, Frank and Toby Marshall, Tom Lauder and Phemie McArthur.

It was the following spring, we took up a homestead at the Pine Lake district. A prairie fire had gone through the district before we moved out there. Our family lived in a tent while our house was being built. G.W. West had the contract for building the house. The nearest neighbours to the south were Robert Morgan, Tom Green and James A. Morgan and families. Robert Stevenson's on the east and Bob Cuddy's on the West.

Dr. Warke practised his profession in the Pine Lake area. It is possible that a considerable number of adults now in the large area he covered were assisted into this world by him.

During the First World War, Dr. Warke served overseas with the medical corps. He returned to Canada and resumed his practice at Pine Lake. Later he served as ships' doctor travelling between Vancouver and the Orient, returning later to England where he died in 1935. Margaret Warke stayed in Canada to be with her family, making her home on the original homestead and then living with various members of her family until her death in 1949.

There were numerous occasions when a whole family would arrive in time for Sunday dinner seeking medical attention. More than one operation was performed on a kitchen table with Mrs. Warke as the anaesthetist.

The children attended Glenellen School. The children were: Charles V.: b. 1898, married Dorothy Breen in 1926. He took over the homestead. In 1967 they retired to Red Deer. Their son John purchased the farm. John married Doris Castleman and they have 4 children. Their daughter, Audrey, married David Derksen and they reside in Comox, B.C. and have three children. William L. b. 1899, married Evelyn Kelso. They have five children: William, Richard, Marjorie, Kathleen and Kenneth. They live at White Rock B.C. Winnifred Moyra: b. 1904, married William Gibson, both deceased. They had six children: Robert, Muriel, Wilma, Norah, Winnifred and Donald. James A. b. 1907, married Gertrude Dieter. In 1958 Mr. & Mrs. James Warke pur-

chased an acreage at Pine Lake where they have built a lovely summer home. There are 5 children: Ida, Alec, Christopher, James and Marjorie, Marjorie: b. 1909, a teacher, married and has two children Eileen and Ernest. Kathleen Devitte: b. 1913, married Laurie Devitte in 1913 now retired to Vernon, B.C. They have 4 children: Frank, Brian, Gladys and Robert.

WATT STORY by Mrs. B.D. Popovich

My Grandpa, James Watt was born at Palmerston, Ontario, March 6, 1852. Grandma, Charlotte Webber was born at Hamilton, Ontario, February 7, 1852. They were united in marriage at Hamilton November 5, 1873. Later coming west to farm at Souris, Manitoba in 1884.

In 1898, Grandpa decided to leave the farm in Manitoba and move west still farther. He left his family behind and travelled by train, a trip that took about four days till he reached Innisfail.

A sawyer by trade, he found employment in a mill situated on the banks of the Red Deer river, about a mile up from the present day bridge on Hiway 54, about four miles from Innisfail.

Two years later (1900) he sent for his wife and family, Charlotte and five of their seven children: Will, Oscar, Millie, Stella and Ethel. Bert and Mary (Hetherington) remained in Manitoba. Grandpa's land was the present McKay place, which was the George Duncan homestead.

He was employed at the mill for four years. There was a very colorful and busy man who was supplying the mill with logs during this time. Like today there were laws also in those days which had to be enforced. The logs didn't all belong to this man and so a complaint was laid. The Government seized the logs, forcing the mill to close. The mill workers were very disappointed and had to seek employment elsewhere. Good sawyers were in great demand, Grandpa found work in another mill in Edmonton where he remained for four years before retiring.

There was a creek at the back of the house (Buffalo Creek) which emptied into the Red Deer river. About



Mr. and Mrs. James Watt

a mile down stream from the buildings it was. No different than present day youngsters, boys and homemade rafts go together. Will and Oscar decided to try their turn at sailing. The water being very high as always in the spring, they were being very careful. This is until Will was caught off guard. Into the swirling cold water he fell. After much difficulty he managed to catch a branch and hung on until Oscar came to his rescue. After this, rafting had lost much of its glow.

There was no bridge, but there was a ferry which served the public and was operated by Frank Thomson. When Oscar and Will Watt wanted to stake their homestead land, the waters were so high that the wagons had to be taken apart and transported across by boat. Hugh Ross owned and operated his boat across the mighty river.

People during this time, raised nearly all their own food. They milked cows, and my Mom said the girls had to learn to do that. They raised their own chickens, grew a garden and even fished in Buffalo Creek.

The children all had their schooling before coming west with the exception of Stella who attended Little Red Deer School.

Some of the neighbors were Hugh Ross, Carter, Brown, Park, Fred Kent, John Hallgate and Crocksford.

Hugh Ross, my Mom said, had the most interesting stories that she could remember. There would be many hours of story telling in those days. Other entertainment would be private dances, cards and during the summer there was ball, sports days, horse racing — the track being close by on the present day Kemp farm. They also attended the Presbyterian Church.

Grandpa and Grandma were blessed with seven children:

Mary Watt who married R.J. Hetherington; B.G. Watt who married Anne Briscoe; W.C.A. Watt who married Mina Bratton; O.O. Watt who married Ina Bratton; Amelia Watt who married Neil McDougall; Stella Watt who married Oscar McCune and Ethel Watt who married William Morison. The only one living is my Mom, Mrs. Ethel Morison who is a guest at the Autumn Glen Lodge in Innisfail.

My Grandparents were able to celebrate their 61st Wedding Anniversary. Grandpa passed away January 11, 1945 and Grandma died January 9, 1940.

We are deeply indebted to those pioneers who worked so hard to build a better Canada.

W.C.A. WATT by Mrs. Janet Warren

W.C.A. Watt homesteaded in 1901 in the Big Bend district and later moved into Innisfail where he went into the implement business. He served as a councillor for many years. He was Mayor of Innisfail 1920-21; was a volunteer fireman for many years. He held many offices in the Masonic Lodge and the Order of the Eastern Star. He was a Grand Patron of the Order of the Eastern Star for Alberta in 1924-25. He was secretary of the Hospital Board and the School Board.



Watt Bros. new car: Will Watt, Oscar Watt, James Watt, Mr. Westlund, Billy Wilson.

There were three children born to the W.C.A. Watts' — Janet (Mrs. Robert Warren) of Calgary, Ruth, (Mrs. Ng) of California and Dwayne of Edmonton.

W.C.A. Watt died, September 13, 1949 and his wife passed away on January 5, 1973.

OSCAR O. WATT by Mrs. Grace E. Logan

Oscar O. Watt was the youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. James Watt. He was born September 5, 1882 at Brussels, Ontario. He passed away on August 29, 1950: while his wife, Ina, passed away on November 18, 1972.

He spent his very early years farming, but later moved into Innisfail with his older brother, W.C.A. Watt going into the Implement business. In 1919 Oscar owned and operated the Watt Hardware business in Innisfail having acquired it from Day Hardware. Oscar married Ina Bratton on May 25, 1910. She was born December 24, 1888 at Livonia Shervurine County, Minnesota, U.S.A. Following their wedding, the young couple took up residence at



Mrs. Oscar Watt

Oscar Watt

Innisfail and remained there until 1928 when for health reasons Oscar sold his Hardware business and moved to Edmonton where he was employed by the Beatty Brothers Firm until his retirement. He was a lifelong member of the I.O.O.F. Lodge and the Presbyterian Church.

His family includes Merritt, who is a graduate of the University of Alberta in Commerce. Merritt is married to Jean Shurie of Trenton, Ont. Merritt spent from 1937 to 1947 in the permanent R.C.A.F.. He reached the rank of Group Captain while he was Commanding Officer at No. 11, Equipment Depot in Calgary, Alta. He retired from the Airforce to become Comptroller at the Provincially operated Dr. W.W. Cross Cancer Clinic and Hospital in Edmonton, Alberta. They have two married daughters: Jean (Mrs. Norman Werenka) of Edmonton and Helen (Mrs. Walker Flint) of Peoria, Ill.

Oscar's daughter, Grace, married Elmer N. Logan who is a practicing lawyer in Grande Prairie, Alta. Grace is a graduate from the University of Alberta and has taught on the Grande Prairie High School Staff for a number of years. They were married on June 30, 1939 and have four sons: Bruce, who is a graduate from the University of Alberta in Mechanical Engineering and Law. He is married to the former Shirley Tilden of Windsor Ontario. Merritt, their second son is Manager of the York Hotel in Grande Prairie which is owned by his father. Merritt is married to the former Maureen Nelson and they have two daughters — Janine and Stacey. The third son is Dwight who is at present (1973) with the CUSO Force and is teaching in Malawi, S.E. Africa. The youngest, Kim, is going into his fourth year of Business Administration and Commerce at the University of Alberta this fall.

Desmond, Oscar's youngest son is a graduate of the University of Alberta in Agriculture and holds his Master's degree from Kansas State University. He is married to the former Suzanne Wheeler. They have a family of seven children: twins — Joan and Anne, Jim, Mary Sue, Kathleen, Brian and Meg. Desmond is with the Research Laboratory of the Armour Meat Company, which is Internationally known with their head office in Chicago.

GEORGE WEIR by Mrs. Kenneth Moffat, a granddaughter

Mr. George Weir was a native of Mount Forest, Ontario. He had a varied career, coming west to Duluth in 1879 and to St. Vincent Minn. in 1880. He then became a trainman in the Great Northern Railway and in 1881 became one of the C.P.R. crew that took the first train from Winnipeg to Brandon. That same year he married Gertrude Eleanor Howatt (a native of Summerside, P.E.I.) at Emerson, Manitoba. The bride was 15 years old.

In 1882 they moved to Nitchie, N.D. and in 1883 homesteaded at Maida, N.D. They farmed there until 1901. In the year previous, Mr. Weir had driven through to Alberta taking up a homestead and in 1901 the family took up their residence in the new land.

Mr. Weir had joined the Masonic fraternity in earlier years and so affiliated with the local Innisfail Lodge. There were four children, all born in the U.S.A. Charles Henry, Walter Tanton, Gertrude Edna and Ruby.

Charles Henry (Harry) served in W.W. 1 and married a girl from Belgium while overseas. No children. In his younger years he played a violin for dances, but was so shy he always turned his back to the dancers. He passed away in 1936.

Walter Tanton never married and passed away in 1972.

Gertrude Edna (my mother) married Roy Hooper who came from P.E.I. in 1905. He had come here to visit his brother Ben Hooper who homesteaded north east of Weirs in 1900. Roy taught one year at Milner-ton school. The Hoopers lived on land north of Weirs and in 1914 homesteaded at Rowley. In 1922 he became the secretary of the Municipal district of Starland, where he remained until 1952 when they retired to Calgary. Before my Dad married he worked in a bank at Ft. McLeod and also worked on a survey crew. There were five children in the Hooper family: John Weir, Gertrude Jean, Ruby Georgina (d. 1948), Gordon Edgar, and Owen Garland. John and Gordon served in the army and Ruby and Owen in the R.C.A.F. Mrs. Hooper passed away in 1971.

Ruby married William John McGhee in 1917 in



Wedding Portrait 1881 — Mr. and Mrs. Weir

Innisfail. They lived for a time on the Elmer Briggs farm (south of Aberdeen school). Mr. McGhee was a drayman in Innisfail prior to moving to Ricinus where he died. There were 9 children: Irma, Bruce (deceased), Audrey, Donna, Zella, Willa, Bonnie, Ronnie (died 1973) and Sheila. Mr. McGhee died in 1936 and Mrs. McGhee in 1959. Most of these children attended school in Innisfail.

In 1903, George Weir and son Harry built the first Calder school. The district had been called Cornwall prior to 1903. Families having pupils in the first Calder school were: Hibberts, Laydens, Calverts, Thurstons, Kirkhams, Peters, Weirs, Forresters, Potters, Horace Hicks, Purvis Wilson. The first teacher was Mr. Philips.

July 14, 1903, the first annual picnic was held on the George Weir farm. W. Schwerdfeger supplied music for the dance. The proceeds from this went towards the purchase of an organ for the school.

When George Weir selected his homestead there were only two other families on that side of the Divide. The open prairie met the gaze South and East as far as was possible to see.

Mr. George Weir passed away in 1933 and is buried in the Divide Cemetery just west of the home farm. Mrs. Weir passed away in 1944 and is buried beside her husband as well as Walter their son.

THOMAS WELLS FAMILY by Beatrice Henry

Thomas Wells was born in Edinburgh, Scotland in 1847. At the age of thirteen he went to sea until he was twenty and married Agnes Mitchell. In 1875 with his wife and five children he emigrated to Canada. They stayed a short time at Weston, Ontario, then moved to Minden in the county of Haliburton, just sixteen years after the first settlers had arrived there. They had ten children when Agnes, always in poor health, died at the age of forty-nine in 1887.

Later Thomas married the widow Mary Ann Fee who had one small daughter, Mary Jane. Mr. Fee had died in North Dakota Dec. 22, 1883, the day Mary Jane was born. Thinking life would be better in the west, the family packed up and moved to Alberta arriving at Poplar Grove on March 14, 1891, bringing their effects by wagon and oxen and walking the almost 100 miles from Calgary.

They settled in the Hill End district where they erected a crude shelter before they had their log house built. Mrs. Wells gave birth to twin girls Elsie and Margaret and a table had to be placed over the bed to keep the rain leaking through the roof off the mother and babies.

The first school classes were held in the Wells' home. In 1892 the first log school house was built on the homestead of John Wells and also used as a church. Mr. Thomas Wells was one of the first school trustees.

Thomas Wells also built a blacksmith shop and did smithing for his neighbors. Having a large family of his own and being very fond of young people, he made his home the gathering place for the young set where music, games, fun and frolic were always available.

Once again he felt the urge to move on, so they took the four younger children and moved to Galliano Island, B.C. and then to the mainland. The last years he spent in Cloverdale where he sold his Alberta homestead to Mr. Harry Partington. Thomas Wells died in 1907 followed two years later by his wife, Mary Ann; both are buried in Surrey, B.C.

THOMAS WELLS by Beatrice Henry

Born in Edinburgh, Scotland Aug. 22, 1868, he came with his family to Canada and homesteaded in the Hill End district in 1891. Like his father, he was also a blacksmith and later became road foreman in the district, grading district roads with eight and twelve horses. He married Carrie Viola Parker on March 1, 1899. Thomas Wells died Feb. 3, 1931; Carrie Viola Wells died Jan. 5, 1928; interred in Horn Hill Cemetery.

Children of Thomas Wells (Jan. 12, 1847 — Feb. 24, 1907) and Agnes (Mitchell) (? — 1887): 1. John — homesteaded at Hill End; died a young man; born in Scotland. 2. Marion — (see Inglis story); born in Scotland; 3. Thomas — homesteaded; born in Scotland; 4. Agnes — born in Scotland; see Niblock story; 5. William — homesteaded; moved to B.C.; m. Gwen Lofting; born in Scotland; 6. Jane — born at Weston, Ont.; m. George Parker; lived in Horn Hill district; 7. Robert — m. Mary Jane Fee, his step-mother's daughter; born Minden, Ont.; 8. Jessie — born Minden, Ont.; see Niblock story; 9. Walter — born Minden, Ont.; m. Mary McGillivray; 10. David — born Minden, Ont.; married and died in Prince George, B.C.; Children of Thomas Wells and Mary Ann Fee: 11. & 12. Elsie and Margaret — twins born at Hill End; Elsie died an infant; Margaret died 1911; 13. Lizzie — born at Hill End; m. Dan McGillivray; 14. Charlie — bachelor; born at Hill End.

Children of Robert Wells and Mary Jane Fee: Mary Agnes (Minnie) — born Nov. 1906; m. Tom Campbell; dec; 2 daughters, 5 sons. Charlie Robert — b. Aug. 23, 1909; m. Lily Battensby; 1 son. Elizabeth Pearl — born Jan. 23, 1912; m. Russell Cross; 1 son. Thomas Benjamin — b. Nov. 24, 1913; m. Mary Domoney; 1 son, 1 daughter; home farm. Dorothy May — b. Feb. 25, 1916; m. Geo. Pye; 1 daughter, 3 sons. Leslie — died at birth.

Children of Thomas Wells and Carrie Viola Parker: Della Viola — m. Chris Quinton (dec.), 2 sons; Beatrice Mary — m. Jack Henry, Antler Hill; David Leslie — bachelor, Antler Hill; Fredrick Walter (dec.) — m. Florence Campbell, Red Deer; 1 girl. Amy Agnes — m. Timothy Parcels; 1 daughter; Vancouver; Margaret Alveretta — m. Charles Garbutt; 2 girls, 1 boy; Red Deer; George Thomas — infant deceased; William Merritt — m. Francis Wilson; 4 girls, 2 boys; Nanaimo, B.C. James Burton (dec.) — m. Phyllis Elwell; 1 girl, 1 boy; Edmonton; Carrie Jean — m. Ken Haise; 1 boy, 1 girl; Red Deer.

ROBERT WELLS by Pearl Cross

Robert Wells was born in Minden, Ont. on June 3, 1877. His children remember him telling of walking with his family from Calgary to Hill End district and

gathering buffalo chips along the way to use as fuel to cook their food. The trip took one week.

Robert was fourteen when they came, not old enough to homestead himself, so he helped his father. Mail day was when Robert walked to the Spruces to meet the stage coach.

When the family moved to B.C., Robert went along but returned a few years later and bought a C.P.R. quarter and a quarter from Sam Hornett. He married his step-sister Mary Jane Fee on March 7, 1905. Mr. & Mrs. Wells took an active part in both school and church. Many of the first roads in the district were built by Robert and his neighbors Ernest Hill and Harry and Gordon Healy.

When his younger brothers and sisters were left alone in B.C. due to the deaths of Robert's parents, Robert and Mary went for them and raised them as their own. Margaret died two years later; David and Lizzie formed homes of their own; Charlie stayed until after the second World War in which he served in the army, then moved to Prince George, B.C. Robert and Mary had six children of their own.

After a life of farming Robert and Mary retired to Red Deer in Oct. 1942, where Mary Jane passed away June 13, 1959 at the age of 75. In 1961 Robert moved to Autumn Glen Lodge in Innisfail where he became known as "Uncle Bob". He passed away at age 89 on Mar. 27, 1966. Both are buried in Alta Reste Memorial Gardens, Red Deer.

G. W. WEST by Donna Chadwick his granddaughter

There was no town nor village when G.W. West arrived in Poplar Grove, N.W.T. in 1891. The surrounding district was largely unpopulated, but he had a faith in the future of the country and time demonstrated the wisdom of his views upon the development and progress here.

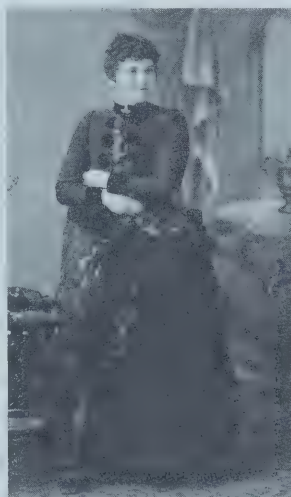
George Washington West, known by all, as "G. W.", was born in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island on July 15, 1862. He received his education at the Prince of Wales College, now known as the Univeristy of Prince Edward Island. He graduated from this institution in 1880. He taught school for ten years and then came West and landed in Poplar Grove, later known as Innisfail. The reason he stopped here was because he was riding on the construction train from Calgary, and in 1891 this was as far as the railroad was completed. It was before the C. & E. railroad was opened to traffic. He recalled that many times on that train ride from the East, how he got out and walked beside the train and was able to walk as fast as the train travelled.

He married Mary Jane McFarlane in 1887 in Prince Edward Island. She was born in 1863 at Seacow Head, P.E.I. She was the youngest of a large family who were farmers on a large scale. Her people pioneered the fox farming on the Island. Her older brothers went into mining in Colorado and built the famous Opera House at Central City, Colo., which is still in use.

G.W. came West alone to seek living accommodations. Mrs. West came out a few months later

with their daughter Gladys (who was born at Centerville, P.E.I., November 22, 1888). Mrs. West was one of the few white women in Poplar Grove at this time. Three other children were born to them in Innisfail: John Sutherland (Jack), born December 23rd, 1895; George Essery Orr Frank (Frank O.) was born June 12, 1899; and Fred who died in infancy. Because there was no doctor in Innisfail at this time, they were delivered by Veterinarian "Doc" Lauder.

Mr. G.W. West opened the first store in Innisfail. It was an occasion of a great festival. People came from far and wide and within a radius of thirty-five miles — which was a great distance to travel in those days. They engaged in all kinds of sports and dancing. In all, there were about one hundred people present. The store was opened July 1, 1891, giving Innisfail its' first July 1st Celebration. The location of the store at that time was on the north side of the tracks. The first three buildings erected were: G.W. West store, the Murray Hotel and the Constantine Stopping House. The Murray Hotel stood on the ridge opposite the West store and with new settlers arriving every day, a brisk business developed. It was later that T.D. Detlor opened a dry goods store, Sam Dickson a meat market and the Massey Harris Company opened an implement warehouse. All of these building along with the first school house were on the North side of the track.



Mary West, Wedding Portrait
1887.



George West, Wedding Portrait
1887.

Somewhere between 1890 and 1894 the first work in surveying was done involving the railroad and townsite. The C & E railroad offered inducements in the way of lots to those who had built on Wood Street. On July 28, 1896, Innisfail was incorporated as a village under the North West Territories Government. On November 3rd, 1903 Innisfail was incorporated as a town in the North West Territories.

When the township was moved South of the tracks, Messrs. West and Detlor moved over. A new livery barn was erected and the town began to expand. Messrs. Curry Brothers came at this time and



Frank, Gladys, and Jack about 1902.

William Varty started a brick yard making hand-made bricks that have stood the test of time. Mr. Andrews put in a grist mill on the John Dodd land on the Edmonton trail. John Field, a Calgary druggist, became the first druggist here. A creamery was launched with the ambitious title of "Innisfail Union Butter and Cheese Manufacturing Association Ltd". The plant was on the corner of the Louis Biolette homestead. John Smith commenced in the harness business. A lawyer, Mr. Watson, arrived. Churches were erected, the first being the Presbyterian and Anglican. John Simpson built a large store in which the first agricultural fair was held in 1892. Dr. George located in the new town.

In the beginning, the freight trains that would stop at Poplar Grove consisted of three heavy wagons coupled together and drawn by a nine span of oxen driven by men possessing a wonderful vocabulary. Their stopping here, probably instituted the forming of the Innisfail we have today.

It was in the early winter of 1901 that George R. Westland came to Innisfail to take up his life work as a newspaper man. He had purchased the remains of the Free Lance. At this time the town consisted of a few stores and a very few residences. Mr. F. Dodsworth had the Free Lance in 1905 or 1906 and he sold out to Edwards of the Eye Opener. It was also in 1906-1907, that a party of C.P.R. surveyors were in town staking out the new spur line to be put in on the north side of the track. It is on this line that the elevators would be erected. When the first train came in bringing new settlers, G.W. West was there to meet and greet them at Wests' store. The store became an Innisfail institution.

G.W. West was an optimist of the aggressive type. He met with opposition in the early days, but no matter what set-backs came, he always came back smiling and willing to continue the struggle. He was a very big hearted man and a tale of woe or hardship always moved him to help out. He found it very difficult to say no when asked to supply necessities to needy set-

tlers who had run out of cash. The location he moved his store to on main street operated for seventy-seven years. It would be across from where the theatre now stands. To the already general merchandise he carried, he added a lumber yard, elevator, fur buying station, meat market and hardware. He was the first shipper of produce from the area. He handled all kinds of produce and British Columbia was his principle market for oats, hay, butter, eggs and poultry. One of his early customers and personal friends was Mr. Luxton in Banff who had a hotel in Banff at the time.

Many a settler who was down on his luck was helped by "G.W.". No children were ever deprived of a bag of candies with a grocery order going out to the farms. Money was scarce. The only ones at the time with actual cash were the remittance men who received their monies twice a year from England. Barter was the means of exchange mostly.

At one time, he needed more groceries for the settlers and he had no money. He got in touch with Burns and Company in Calgary telling them he must feed these families and all he had was three carloads of frozen rabbits. Burns took them!

In the early days, he had no cash register, but they had a galvanized pail that hung from the ceiling that held what cash there was.

Some of his early employees were: James Fawdrey who came to work in 1894 in the grocery section, Sandy Dallas, Joe deLong, Jack Marshall and Miss Edith Anderson, and others.

The bell for the fire hall was hoisted to its position in the bell tower some fifty feet above the level of the ground. It was done by block and chain. It was a 1400 pound bell that was bought from G.W. West.



Innisfail's first store, G. W. West's, on the first townsite on north side of the railroad tracks, taken in 1892.

L. to R.: G. W. West, Gladys, NWMP "Rogers", James O. Bennett, Johnny Duff, Denny Sullivan, ?, Mrs. West, Mrs. Sullivan and Mrs. Detlor upstairs.

Miss Playle had a preparatory school for children called "Sunnyside, Innisfail" in 1906. This was the first of its' kind here.

G.W. West purchased from the Innisfail Brick yard, 80,000 brick to be shipped to a contractor in Calgary in 1907. It took six cars to deliver this brick.

Politics were taken very seriously in those days and my Dad recalls hearing his Mother tell of the time when an election was approaching. G.W. West was a staunch Conservative and Hiram McDermott was a staunch Liberal. They were the best of friends, except, at election times. It was the custom in the evenings that everyone met at the Royal Hotel, probably putting their foot on the rail — and, politics being the issue of the day, it ended that G.W. came home with a bruised eye and we aren't sure in what condition Mr. McDermott was in — all over a political disagreement. However, when the election was over, they were good friends again.

As well as being one of the towns' outstanding businessmen, he was also a leader in public life. It was while G.W. West was Mayor that the town put in its lighting plant and sidewalks. He served as Mayor and on the school and hospital boards. After considerable negotiations, a trip to Ottawa, and great co-operation from his friend, R.B. Bennett, he succeeded in getting the Government to purchase the Bank of

Commerce Building. The building was then remodelled and on January 1, 1937 Ed Dodd and his staff took over the new premises as Post Office.

In an early newspaper, I find the report of a council meeting: quote: "It was brought up that there was a petition asking for modification of the town bylaw that was introduced by Councillor Stiles who spoke in favor of it. Councillor West opposed. Arguing that the only animal that got into the pound was "his" cow. She spent Sunday there and as she was of very mature years, she was unable to get away as a younger and more agile cow could. Consequently, he was the only sufferer and as he did not object, there was no necessity to alter the bylaw. Councillor Kremer said that he had heard that Wests' cow, was a confirmed kleptomaniac and deserved to be run in". — end of quote.

In looking through old ledgers, including the day book that we have, with the first days' business, I find in 1900 Mr. Dobson bought a suit for \$7.75; Mr. H.J. Scott bought boots for 75c and eggs sold for .13c a dozen.

Mr. G.W. West was one of the originators of the Retail Merchants Association in Alberta and was an early member of Associated Grocers Ltd. He belonged to many organizations within the framework of the Town of Innisfail.



West's Store on the new townsite, 1896. Included in picture: Gladys as little girl, Jack in buggy, G. W. and Mrs. West, Tom Detlor and NWMPoliceman.

The founder of the business "G.W. West & Son", passed away November 29, 1936. It was at this time that his youngest son, Frank O. West, assumed his father's duties.

Gladys, the only daughter, was educated in Innisfail and in 1906 went to Haverigal College in Toronto. She married B.M. Stitt (Barney) in 1912. He had the Alberta Hotel in Innisfail. They later lived in Edmonton going from there to The Pas, Manitoba where he flew for the Forestry Department all over the north. He was later elected to the House of Parliament and they resided in Ottawa during this time. They returned to The Pas, where he was Mayor and had the Apasco Hotel. They had two children Bernard and Molly who were both drowned in the North Saskatchewan river at The Pas, when ages 9 and 11 years. At The Pas, Barney had interests in mines, fur buying and real estate. He served overseas in World War I. He died at The Pas, and Gladys carried on the business and remained there until her passing in December, 1967.

Jack attended school in Innisfail. He and Fleet Kirkham were the first "hired guns" in Innisfail, being given the opportunity to shoot pop guns during the silent movies at the appropriate times. He furthered his education in Calgary and then to business College in Edmonton. He went into the Imperial Bank in Red Deer, transferring to Edmonton and then to Athabasca where he met and married Myrtle Dunphy. They had one daughter Kleo, who resides in California. Frank O., the youngest son attended school in Innisfail too — (see F.O. West story.)

Mrs. G.W. West passed away January 7th, 1925. Her sister Harriet was married to G.W. West's cousin, John West, and they opened a store in Wetaskiwin in the early days. Her other sister, Kate, was married to James Montgomery who is the grandfather of Jim Montgomery, who is still running this business in Wetaskiwin today.

Although many of the pioneers drifted away to other places, a good many of them stayed on; good, solid people — who shaped the community which is Innisfail today.

Because of the pioneering G.W. West did, Innisfail is very important to his descendants. In fact, I came from Texas to have G.W. West's great granddaughter born in Innisfail — needless to say, with some improvement from the Veterinarian delivery to the fine medical facilities we now have.

FRANK O. WEST by Donna & Ora

Frank O. West, our father, was born in Innisfail, where Macleod's store is now located, on June 12, 1899. He is the youngest of the family of G.W. and Mary West. He received his schooling here, joined the Royal Flying Corps from here and after returning, went to Spokane to work for his brother, Jack, as a salesman for office supplies covering four States.

In 1923 he returned to Innisfail to go into partnership with his Father in the Store, G.W. West & Son. His mother passed away in 1925.

On August 17, 1927 Frank West married Lucille McGillivray, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W.R.

McGillivray. She had graduated from the Calgary General Hospital in 1925. They have two children: Donna (Chadwick) and Ora (Dawson) and two grandchildren: Cindy Chadwick and Gregg Dawson.

Our Dad served on the town council and was Mayor from 1950-52. During his term of office he organized Mayor's meetings from Airdrie to Penhold to get natural gas for the towns: Also at this time the first industry was introduced to Innisfail — Stramit —. The first official Royal Visit took place with the Duke and Duchess of Harar and Princess Ruth of Ethiopia. The Duke was the son of Emperor Haile Selassie. R.N. Thompson was their official escort and brought them to his home town to be welcomed by the Mayor and citizens. Later, in appreciation, Haile Selassie sent gold medals to the Mayors of Toronto, Vancouver and our Dad.

Dad has been a director for the Associated Grocers — Joined the Masonic Lodge in Spokane and affiliating with the Innisfail Lodge, — belongs to the Al Azhar Shrine Temple and had the opportunity of seeing the original Al Azhar in Egypt which is the first place of learning in the world. Dad has been a member of the G.W.V.A. and legion with a 51 year membership (1973).



Frank West Family: L. to R.: Gordon Dawson, Frank West, Ora, Donna, Cindy, Lucille ("Mac"), Gregg.

As a youngster he tells of how they used to have plays in the barn behind their house. Charlie Maynard, Jack, Orlie Foster, Fleet Kirkham, and Roy Smith all participated, all directed, and all had fun.

His first car was a 1913 Ford Runabout. He named it the "Yellow Peril". They had a Russell Knight car at the same time. The first shows were road shows held at the Opera House next to the Alberta Hotel. Later, the NEW Opera house was built which is

known as the Moose Hall today. Here, there were silent movies. Some of the people who ran it were Red McDonald, Stan Forbes and G.E. Bryan, with Jack Miller as projectionist (using a hand crank).

One time, on the 24th of May, Jack put some firecrackers under a tin can. they weren't going off, so Dad told Jack to look and see what was wrong. He did, and it knocked out his two front teeth.

The family went back to Prince Edward Island in 1910 and 1912. In 1936, Dad took his own family to P.E.I. and it was later that same year that his father, G.W. West, passed away.

The store was remodeled in 1939 and customers didn't mind walking planks to do their shopping. Through the years several departments were added making it a complete department store.

Because of cancer, Dad closed out the business Dec. 24, 1968. It was a time of mixed feelings, having operated for 77 years in one family. The people of the town and district were not only our customers, but our friends.

Dad saw the small hamlet become a flourishing town with many stores of all kinds and numerous residences. He saw the building of fine schools and other public buildings. He has seen the farmers prosper. In fact, the Innisfail mixed grain growing country has enabled her people to pull through successfully when in other localities, they had a hard pull to make ends meet. A short drive in any direction from town shows ample proof of the fact that the farmers are doing well. It shows, as he claimed, that when the farmer prospered there was prosperity for all and this is what has made Innisfail the town it is today.

Both our parents are enjoying retirement in Innisfail with their many friends.

Royal Hotel Burns Down on Main Street in 1922

THE WHEALON FAMILY by the K.H.V.W.I. 'history' and James Donald Whealon

The Whealons were very early settlers, coming here in September, 1893; Walter from Toronto, William from Boston; later their brother Jack came here from their original home in Talehurst, Huntingdon, Quebec. They homesteaded Sec. 4-35-26-4. Later the brothers were joined by their mother and sisters Mary, Alma and Adelaide following the death of their father. They all took up homesteads and at one time had nineteen quarter sections, most still to be cleared of brush. They erected a log house which was welcomed for many years as a stopping house. Bill Whealon operated a blacksmith shop on his farm, shoeing horses, sharpening plow shears and welding, and later moved to the KHV store, where he was 'village blacksmith' for many years.

Will Whealon and Phil Holden were two of the old-time stepdancers who entertained during the supper intermission of community dances. Preparing for a dancing party one night, Will thought he would ap-

pear in Boston style, and found a stiff bosomed shirt in his trunk. This required laundering. Will was short of laundering material, so mounted a cayuse and journeyed to the store. Arriving there, he said, "Have you any butter?" "No, but lots of jam." "Any soap?" "Yes." "How much starch would it require to starch a shirt?" "Oh, about a pound." "I'll have a pound." Again mounting his horse, he returned home. Soon the soapsuds were flying and the shirt getting the rounds of the tub. An old smoothing iron was pulled out, rusty as could be, but with a jab or two over some cow salt, the rust was pretty well gone. Next came the pound of starch well mixed with water, the shirt was shoved in, and then hung to dry in the sun. Grande finale — shirt spread across table, the iron good and hot, shirt just damp enough for ironing, and the laundryman proceeded with the operation. First stroke, the iron went into the starch with a vengeance, but stuck. The second stroke, the iron went in deeper and stuck solid. Before the iron and shirt could be separated, a hole was burned through the bosom. This ended the fancy dress idea.

In 1903, Walter got in touch with Mr. George McLaren concerning a store and Post Office on the corner of Sec. 6. Mr. Whealon got in touch and made application to Ottawa for the post office to be given to Mr. McLaren and the office to be named Knee Hill Valley. This was granted. Until this time, the valley had been known as Pleasant Valley, a name that the school district still carries. With the help of the neighbors a store and post office were erected in 1903 by Mr. McLaren. In 1907 he sold the store to Mr. Dave Wilson. In the following years the store changed hands many times. Postmasters were as follows in the order given: George McLaren, Dave Wilson, Wilton Bros., Alf Wilton, Talmage Wilson, Miss F.A. Whealon, Bert Bilton, Paul Schaefer (1922), Lena Schaefer (1936), D.R. Offerhaus (1942), Mrs. S. Thurston, Mrs. H. Thurston. The store and post office was closed in July 1955. The original store had burnt down in 1931 and a new one was erected by Mr. Schaefer.

Adelaide was a good carpenter. In 1909 she helped Will build a hardware store which was known as the Knee Hill Valley Hardware. The firm was W.E. Whealon, Alma and E. Adelaide Whealon. Adelaide managed the store from 1910 to 1921. A warehouse was built for buggies and democrats, and Bill was the agent for the Grey-Campbell Carriage Co. He was also agent for the Massey Harris Co. In 1911, he became agent for the Wawanesa Mutual Fire Insurance, and sold hail insurance for years. In 1912, Miss Adelaide Whealon became the first lady in the Province to receive the appointment as issuer of marriage licenses, also the first lady to receive an appointment as a Commissioner of Oaths. She was the first lady to serve as the Deputy Returning Officer at an election. This office she had many times. She also was enumerator for a number of times, and in 1926 and 1936 was census taker in the valley.

Mary Whealon, a dress-maker, became paralyzed with a creeping paralysis. Miss Alma Whealon taught

school for many years here and only just a few years ago retired from the teaching profession. Both Alma and Adelaide made it possible for a number of the boys and girls of the KHV district to receive a high school education. High School being refused in country schools, many who otherwise could have had higher education were forced to stop. The Whealons held school in their own home, and a number took advantage of this, giving up their leisure time for classes. Many were helped in this way and went on to successful careers.

Anne Pringle married Jerry Whealon Dec. 24, 1854 when she was just 17 years old. They had eight children: Catherine Anne born 1856 — died an infant; Mary born 1858, died Feb. 1929; John (Jack) born 1860, died June, 1941 — his twin died when a baby; James born 1863, died 1936 — the only one who married, his wife died in 1932; Walter born 1866, died March 1948; William born 1868, died July 1959; Alma born 1878, still living at Innisfail in 1973 is 95 years old; Adelaide, born 1880, died August 15, 1954. Anne Pringle Whealon died May 1919; Jerry Whealon died 1890.

My name is James Donald Whealon. I was born Nov. 4, 1902 in Butte, Montana. My father was James Duncan Whealon, the only one of the Whealons to have married. He married Ada Haywood in Sheridan, Montana in 1898, then moved to Butte where he found relief for an asthmatic condition. I have one sister, Genevieve, born Dec. 4, 1907. We are both married, she to William Boettcher of Polson, Montana. They have three children, Billy, Jamie and Carla. I married a Butte girl, Bernice Coggins, and we have twin boys, born in 1946, James D. and Jerry T.

My first visit to Knee Hill Valley was in early spring in 1919 when my mother, my sister and I came up from Butte. My grandmother was ailing and she had never seen us. We came to Innisfail by train, where we stayed in the hotel for three days waiting for the mailman to get through. We all rode his buckboard through the gumbo to KHV. I stayed at the store with Uncle Bill and Aunt Adelaide and Mother went to Walter's where grandmother lived. She died a short time later and another storm set in. We kept her body frozen until the men could blast out a grave site on her own land, just east of KHV. It still is a cemetery, with maybe a dozen graves, including Aunt Adelaide who wanted to be by her mother's side. I stayed in KHV for a couple of months with Bill and learned to drive a 1913 Ford that Bill had. One day we came into Innisfail to a Fair and Bill let me drive in town. I drove right down the right side of the road, with every farmer with a team hollering at me, as traffic was on the left then. I have made many trips back to Innisfail since then.

My son Jerry, in the Naval air force, was radio contact for Borlman when Apollo 8 returned from the first trip to the moon. My boys Jerry and Jimmy are the only ones to carry on the Whealon name.

WHETHAM FAMILY by Mrs. Edna (Whetham) Oakes

Ephrem Whetham was born in St. Thomas, Ontario in 1856. He settled in North Dakota to farm when he was eighteen. Jennett Grant was born March 17, 1865 in Aberdeen, Scotland. She came to Pictou, Nova Scotia and then North Dakota with her parents, where she met and married Ephrem Whetham. In 1892 the Ephrem Whethams with their 10 month baby, Edna, and friends Mr. & Mrs. Charlie Peters and their children (Ross and Mabel) left Walhalla, North Dakota by settlers' train bound for Calgary. From there they travelled by horse and wagon to Pine Lake, a trip of several days.

Many settlers came to this area very poorly prepared and extremely ignorant of what resources they would find available, what the weather would be like, and so on. The Whethams and Peters had been farsighted enough to bring a year's supply of staples with them and they had enough farming and building tools. With food and adequate clothing and bedding, the families managed fairly well that first winter.

They arrived November 2, 1892, the beginning of a long hard winter. The snows had already begun to stay on the ground and there was barely time to build a shelter for the two families to live in; there was certainly no time to gather feed for their animals. The Whethams had brought two cows, one with a calf, and a team of horses; while the Peters had boarded their stock out in Innisfail. The weather became extremely severe and first the cows, then the horses succumbed to the starvation and freezing conditions. Miraculously, the calf survived (a heifer) since she was small enough to be brought into the house where she was kept in the woodbox and fed gruel made from rolled oats. She later became the family's first milk cow.

They had planned to homestead at Pine Lake, where they had taken shelter for the winter, but when the spring came much of the land was under water and they moved — the Whethams homesteaded in the Antler Hill District and the Peters at Milnerton district. So in the Spring of 1893 a primitive house was built from available materials of green logs, cracks filled with moss and mud, a roof of slender poles covered with moss and slough grass and a dirt floor with cowhides and rag rugs for covering; the bunks were also made of poles and ticking filled with straw. They used this particular house for about two years, then built a better log house which they lived in for a few years, later building again, each time improving things a little.

The Whetham children attended Antler Hill School.

The unpredictable weather was the cause of much discomfort and worry. One day in spring when school was in session with Mr. Mayhood as teacher, a storm began to brew. Many of the children, among them Edna, Lila and Joe Whetham, had dressed in their spring clothing after careful consideration by their parents. The day had begun bright, sunny, and very warm and there was no reason to believe warmer

clothing would be needed. However, by early afternoon snow was falling heavily and the children were dismissed and told to hurry home. The Whetham children had a long way (3-1/2 miles) to walk, and found their way each day by following a line of white rags tied to the trees by their father. These rags soon became invisible on the snow-covered newly-leaved trees and the children were lost.

Chilled to the bone, confused and extremely frightened, the three wandered crying through the blinding snow. They could all very easily have perished had Mr. Laing, on his way across country to see his daughter, Mrs. Archibald, not noticed their wandering tracks in the snow, followed them and found the terrified children. They were all ill for some time following their misadventure.

There was so little money that it's hard to say what it would buy. Farm produce and handicrafts were used for barter; a few dozen eggs, some fresh vegetables or meat, or a nicely made broom or rug could often purchase one or two staples required by the family. Jennett kept her family well fed and clothed by selling and trading her handmade goods. She homespun wool and knitted socks and underwear and made hats called "cow's breakfasts" from wheat straw and took in deer hides from people who wanted hand-made buckskin jackets made up.

Wild fruits were easily obtained and preserved if one could find jars to can them in. Any glass bottle was used if it was at all serviceable. The necks of bottles were removed quite simply by tying a cord soaked in coal oil around them at the desired spot. This was then lit and burned, the bottle then quickly immersed in cold water and the unwanted piece came off cleanly. The fruit was then sealed in the 'jar' by a wax top.

Coal oil, when it could be afforded, was bought by the gallon for lights on special occasions. At West's store a gum-drop was stuck on the spout to seal it and the children took delight in having their turn at eating the gum drop (which was rather odd-tasting). On regular occasions, home-made candles provided light at night.

People remembered are Billy Smith, an accomplished fiddler; Jack Wilson, who was Jennett's uncle and served the town for many years as a blacksmith; Wests and Dettlers who provided store facilities for the people and took trade items when money was almost non-existent.

Very fondly remembered also was Dr. Crawford who operated on Edna when she was about 11 years old to remove her appendix. She stayed with the family for many weeks while she recovered from this surgery (thought to be the first such operation performed in Innisfail.) It was done on a kitchen table by the light of a coal-oil lamp with a tin shade under very primitive conditions. Mr. & Mrs. Nathan Brown operated their home as an infirmary at that time.

There were six children born to Ephrem and Jennett Whetham; all but Edna were born in Alberta.

Edna — born in 1892, married Roy Oakes, resides in Innisfail.

Delilah — born in 1893, married Frank Oakes, now deceased.

Joseph — born in 1896, who married the late Ida Wills of Vulcan, also deceased.

Peter — born in 1898, who died in 1918 a casualty of WWI.

Sidney — who married Seretha Burt of B.C. now living with his wife in Washington near Seattle.

John — born in 1907 who married Elsie White of Innisfail, now living at Shelton, Wash.

Ephrem Whetham died in 1943 and is interred at Innisfail.

CHARLES JAMES WHITE by Elsie Whetham

Charles James White was born at Alexandria, Minnesota on August 20, 1875. He farmed in Lawton, North Dakota before coming to Innisfail in 1903, accompanied by Mr. & Mrs. W.H. Saunders and their oldest daughter. He married Emily May Smith in the Presbyterian Church, Innisfail, on February 22, 1904. They had four children.

The farm provided shelter and most of the food; hay, grain and some cattle were sold. Sometimes the crop was frozen and Charles did some trapping to buy seed grain those years. Over the years he acquired more land, better and newer machinery, more livestock, besides building a new house and barn.

Recreation consisted of dances in the school. Dad often played the organ for dances for 75c a night, parties in homes, and visiting of neighbors. Our first neighbors were William H. Saunders and family, Mr. Wallace, Al Humes and family, Anthony Smith and family, James Steadman and family.

Dad helped start the first school, Steadman School No. 924, where grades 1 to 8 were taught. Elsie started school in 1914 when Mr. Kempton was teacher. Other teachers were Ruby Lougheed, Miss Whealon, Miss Era Paul, Miss Pollack. Dad was a member of the school board for 15 years.

The early families I remember most were the Smiths, who were my uncles — Tom, John, Robert, Anthony, Walter and Fred. The only people we knew in the town of Innisfail at that time were the merchants: Mr. Fumerton, G.W. West, Williams & Little, The Hodges, all merchants; blacksmith Jack Wilson, Postmaster Ed Dodd and sister Mrs. Stiles.

Emily May White died Aug. 9, 1929; Charles White Feb. 9, 1962.

Children: Elsie (White) Whetham, living in Shelton, Washington; Mable (White) Krause, died June 1935; Harvey White married Nancy McBride, lives in Banff; Lewis White, lives in Gadsby.

THOMAS WHITE FAMILY by Mrs. Ruby Cousins

Thomas White was born in Paisley, Scotland, May 17, 1877. He came to Innisfail in 1901 from Perth, Ontario to marry Hannah Charlott Kirkham.

Before coming to Innisfail he had worked on a farm near Perth. After arriving here, he opened the first bakery in the district. He later sold this and went



In front of White's Bakery

to work at the Innisfail Royal Hotel and was employed there until it burned down. He then bought a farm with his father-in-law and farmed until five years before his death. The most tragic story was the death of his wife at the early age of twenty-four. She left three small children.

He obtained food and clothing by operating the bakery which he owned and his mother-in-law (Mrs. George S. Kirkham) took the children and cared for them. The children were: Ruby (Mrs. Everett Cousins), Gladys (Mrs. Fred Coughan), William who married Katherine Songhurst.

Our first neighbors were S.P. Fream who was in real estate; Mr. Playle the photographer, George Westland of the Province Printers, Dr. Crawford and George Powers.

We children attended the Innisfail Public and High Schools. Teachers were: Etta Smith, Faye Sherwood, Lillian Edgar, Mr. Crosbie, Mr. A. Reeves. Some school mates I recall were Margaret Fumerton, Jean and Laura Scott, Esther McAllister, Jessie Dundas, Lois Kremer, Blanche Percy, Lyle Hall, Allan Moore and Glen Paul.

I remember too, H.J. Percy the baker, Fumertons having the general store, Blair McMillan the cattle buyer, Hiram McDermott the jeweller, Dr. Wagner, G.W. West general merchant, Johnny Ferguson, George Bryan, F.M. Oldham and Fred Rogers who kept a very beautiful bit of ground and was so very kind in showing it and letting children play there.

As children I remember the ghost stories told to us by our uncle Thomas Marks. They weren't so much impressive as they were frightening.

Tom White was a member of the I.O.O.F., Foresters and the Loyal Orange Lodge. Others with him in these organizations were George Powers, Bert Varty, L.M. MacLean and William Scott (Grandma Kirkham's brother).

Hannah Charlotte White died December 10th, 1910 and Thomas White in May of 1957. Interrment at the Innisfail Cemetery.

FRED WHITELOCK by Mrs. Jessie Miller

Fred Whitelock arrived in Innisfail in 1905. He came to homestead in the Cottonwood district, coming from Cleveland, Ohio. In the winter he put up ice for the Innisfail Creamery and several other businesses in Innisfail.

The first family was: Clarence, Clifford, Merle and Frances (Mrs. Jess Miller)

The second family (he married Emma Thompson) were: Allan, Blair, Lily and Gladys.

WALTER WHITESIDE by Mrs. R.W. Whiteside

Walter Whiteside was born in Sussex, New Brunswick in 1870. He came to the Westholm district of Innisfail with his older brother Edward in 1888, secured his homestead, and then worked for the C.P.R. building bridges and the main line through the Rockies.

In 1894 he married Susan Jane Johnson, one of four sisters who came west from Ontario with their brother and parents. Another sister married Edward Whiteside; another sister married Walter's cousin, Joseph Doan; and another sister married Joe Doan's brother Bert Doan.

Their first neighbors were the Kennings and Marshalls. Their early recreation was church and dances occasionally held at 'The Stopping House'. Walter enlisted in the army in the spring of 1916, was wounded in action, and returned home to the farm. He served as councillor for L.I.D. No. 18 and was one of the original members of the local school board.

Walter and Susan had eight children:

Henry William Whiteside, born 1895, married Elizabeth S. Henderson in 1923. They had four sons: Douglas, Cyril, Walter and Paul. He died in Wetaskiwin in 1961. His wife still lives there.

Bertha Christina Whiteside, born in 1896, married Dr. A.T. Turner, had two sons and two daughters; died in 1965; is buried in Kitchener, Ont.

Alice May Whiteside, born in 1898, married Wm. Middleton, had one son. Later she married Jeffrey Walker in California. They had a daughter and a son. She still lives in California.

Robert Baden Whiteside, born in 1900, married Margaret McCullough. They had one daughter, Kathleen Baden; died in Calgary.

Dolly Irene Whiteside, born in 1903, married Robert Elliott and lived near Stettler until her death. They had four sons and one daughter.

Florence Leslie Whiteside, born in 1905, married Rudolph Fleishmann in 1936. They had one daughter, Gail. Florence died in Calgary in 1949.

Richard Wesley Whiteside, born in 1907, married Anna Willard Trueman in 1937. They had two sons; James Barry and David Brian. They still live on the family farm.

Walter Stanley Whiteside, born in 1912, married Mary Burroughs. They had three sons: Allan, Glenn, and Dennis. Stanley died in Calgary in 1966.

BILL WILSON by Mrs. Henry Holmes

Bill Wilson was born in Arkansas in 1879. He had lived at Dillon, Montana drilling water wells along

the Washington-Idaho border, with a steam engine supplying the power.

After arriving in Innisfail in 1919 he went into partnership with Jack Hendrickson in the well drilling business. His neighbors were Arthur Thompson and Mr. Gillis. In 1929 he moved east of the town to the Clarendon district where he purchased land from the Joe Reise estate. His neighbors there were: Les Shanks, Monty Baker, Hubert Oiler, the Sherwood family, and Henry Holmes. While there, he raised sheep, but in order to do he had to fence and cross fence a half section with seven strands of barbed wire. No sheep ever strayed from his place. Like other sheep farmers, he had trouble with coyotes; they kept digging under a gate. He set a trap consisting of a loaded gun. A neighbor lad riding across country narrowly escaped being the first victim.

Bill was also a horse trader, and had a wealth of stories in this regard — most of them unfit for publication. In addition, he tried making many kinds of home brew but did not have much success.

Although Bill showed a bluff exterior, he really had a heart of gold and was ever ready to help a friend or a neighbor in trouble. A very eccentric man, he refused to be called anything but Bill. When a mail order house sent him a money order addressed to William, he refused to accept it until they changed his name to Bill.

While complaining bitterly about a neighboring lady, he built a stile over the hedge for easy access. He also believed in making his wishes known by sarcastic signs. There was always one over his wash basin suggesting it be emptied each time it was used. He had another sign over his gate, the gist of which was: "If you want to borrow somethin', don't take it if I'm not here. If I am here, don't ask."

During the Second World War, he sold his land to Milford Montgomery, then moved to Langley, B.C. where he dealt in real estate. Mr. & Mrs. Hendrickson sometimes spent the winter with him there. He died a bachelor at Langley in 1963.

BILLY WILSON by Freddie Duff

Billy Wilson freighted in Missouri on a steam boat to Edmonton. It would take about a year to do it!

His brother, Jim, was given three months to live, so they came out west. Billy said they came here as there aren't so many rocks and we can dig a grave in half the time. They freighted from Calgary to Edmonton for a short time.

Bob Wilson was over six feet tall and he married the woman who owned the Royal Hotel. Bob adopted a girl. He sold the hotel in 1903. He wouldn't hire any help that came from Ontario. He said the reason was he couldn't get along with anyone from there. (He was from Ontario himself). He got the toothache in church one time and had to go to Dr. George. You got a drink of Whiskey and the tooth out, then another drink — so nobody minded getting teeth out in the early days.

Billy Wilson was in the Riel Rebellion. Billy was in the first family of four, but only two girls came out from England. Jim Wilson was Billy's half brother.



Serious curling by Billy Wilson.

Billy Wilson married Albina Henderson. They had no children, but helped raise three families, two at a time, including Archie and Bessie McCauley. Billy died in 1936.

Jim Wilson married someone from Knee Hill Valley and they had three girls: Lila, Bessie and a sickly girl. They had five or six boys and they all went overseas.



Mr. and Mrs. Billy Wilson.

DAVID WILSON by Ethel (Wilson) McGorman

David Wilson, a brother of my father, Jack Wilson, came to visit him and decided to come west. Uncle Dave and Aunt Winnie had five children: Irene, Walter, Meada, Verner and Elva. When Uncle Dave received the deed for his homestead, he sold it and moved into Innisfail living in a house where now stands the Post Office. Here he traded horses and drove settlers around the country to look at land.

The year of the typhoid epidemic, the family were all sick, except Walter and Verner, who came to stay with us. From them we learned potatoes were 'spuds' and that year, because of the frost, the potatoes were very small and we cooked them in their skins. Those boys could eat 'spuds', and tease the cows and cats when we were milking. We had a gay time while they were with us. Irene, their eldest girl, died.

Uncle Dave bought the Knee Hill Valley Store and Post Office and for several years operated business there. He was quite a horse fancier, and recognized many a stolen horse. Uncle Dave and Aunt Winnie later went to Vancouver where they had a poultry farm on Lulu Island until Dave's death just a few years ago. Walter and Verner also moved to Vancouver and Elva and Meada went to California.

JACK WILSON by Evelyn Dombeski

Jack Wilson was born in La Chute, Quebec in 1859. He married Mary Ann Peters, born in 1866 in Napanee, Ontario. They came to Innisfail in 1892 on the train bringing a carload of Clydesdales and other horses. As far as we know, he was the first blacksmith and woodworker in Innisfail. The family's first neighbors were Dr. Lauder and Mr. Varty. Jack had fighting cocks that provided exciting recreation. Jack died in December 1924; his wife Mary Ann in December 1921. They had nine children: Frank, May, Pearl, Jack, Teddy, Elizabeth, Evelyn, Bill and Katie.

JOHN WILSON by Ethel (Wilson) McGorman

At the turn of the century we were living in Toronto, where my father, John Wilson, was a member of the Toronto Police Force. After being ill twice with pleurisy, his doctor advised him to go to the dry clear air in the west. Father at once left to visit his brother, Dave Wilson, who was homesteading twenty miles southeast of Innisfail. The climate seemed to give him new energy and he decided to file on land and move west. His report of the prospects in the west intrigued the whole family. John Wilson sold his house, bought some machinery, a buggy, harness and implements, packed their furniture and loaded all on a car of settlers' effects ready to go by CPR to Innisfail. Harold, who was employed by the Toronto Electrical Company, decided to work until a house would be built and Mrs. Wilson, Violet, and the three younger children went to visit relatives in the Georgian Bay district. Mr. Wilson and Melville left early in the spring to build a house on the homestead about a mile from his brother Dave.

Early in October 1902, the rest of the family joined them. The train ride was rough and bumpy as the roadbed was not as good as today. The clanging of

the bumpers and couplings and squeak of the wheels made sleeping difficult. It took five long days and nights and the prairies seemed endless. The scenery through northern Ontario was interesting for we saw a bear and several deer among the trees. During the day we also saw horses and cattle. Four year old Roy, a city boy, asked if horns grew on cattle or were glued on, much to the amusement of the children from a farm. The days were long after the novelty of travel wore off and we were glad to arrive in Calgary where we saw cowboys drive cattle down the main street. At Innisfail we were met by Father, Uncle Dave and Melville. Innisfail looked very small to us compared to Toronto. We had dinner at the Royal Hotel — a treat for us for we had never before eaten in a public place.

We were soon on our way to Uncle Dave's; the scenery fascinated us, especially when we turned south and could see the beautiful sunset going down behind the snow capped mountains. We had never seen anything as breath-taking or lovely. We were glad to get to Aunt Winnie's and get settled for the night, free of the noise of the train, and later to get settled in our own house, even before the roof had any shingles. We could see the stars and moon at night through the cracks between the roof boards. Often we were awakened when prairie chickens landed on the roof and father would shoot one or more to add to our menu.

Homestead life was very different from life in Toronto. We had no conveniences, but Martha, Roy and I thought it a wonderful adventure and I never once heard my mother complain. She was a friend to everyone, ready to give a helping hand where needed, especially in sickness, for doctors were twenty miles away. My Father was much better and he was able to drive horses on the plow until his death in 1914. He was buried in Innisfail and Mother beside him when she died in 1922.

Harold and Melville filed on land five miles east, built shacks on each and resided on them six months of each year for three years. Melville sold his and returned to Toronto where he married Katherine Dixon. They had three children — Ross, and twins — Katherine and Rosemary. Melville — born 1886, died Feb. 28, 1963.

Harold and Louise Marshall were married in 1910. They lived on his homestead, then moved into Innisfail and later to Vancouver with their family — Arthur, Violet, Marjory, Leslie and Elaine. Harold, born 1882; died 1970.

Violet married Archie Benedict in 1907. They lived in Hanna where Archie was in business. They had four children — Harold, Stanley, Russell and Ruth. Archie died in 1917 and the family moved to Calgary. Violet married Andrew Tidd in 1924.

Ethel married Albert McGorman in 1914. (see McGorman story) Martha and Claude Paull were married in 1919. (see Paull story)

Roy attended school at May City and at the Gleichen School of Agriculture. He sold the Wilson homestead and went to the U.S.A. and then to Van-

couver in 1943 where he married Daisy Brown. Roy, born 1898; died 1963.

JOHN WILSON SR. & JOHN WILSON JR. by John Wilson Jr.

John Wilson, my father, was born in Gourrock, Scotland on May 22, 1878. He had friends who had settled in the Innisfail area; he arrived in August 1905 from Scotland and homesteaded twenty-one miles South East of Innisfail. He suffered many hardships, especially when hauling lumber to build the house during the hard winter of 1906. He and his wife, Elizabeth, had two sons — William and John.

Early neighbors were the Mike Waltons, Dix Randalls, W. Howards, and J. Tearneys. My father had been a butcher and in the early days here, and did custom butchering of cattle for which the butcher was given the hide. He later supported his family just from the sale of cattle.

John Sr. was an early breeder of Hereford cattle and a judge at leading shows. Elizabeth was active in the Women's Institute, Ladies' Aid and other services. William and I attended the Hogadone and Milner rural schools. My last teacher at Milner was Ethel Wilson (no relation) who later was Mrs. McGorman and who taught the last few years of her teaching career in John Wilson School.



Mr. and Mrs. J. Wilson Sr. and Mr. and Mrs. J. K. Barclay

William F. Wilson married Lorraine Clement in Vegreville, Alta. in 1927; was a Sergeant with Anti-Aircraft in London from December 1939 on. He died in New Westminster, B.C. in 1968.

John Jr. married Bertha MacLean in Innisfail in 1930; they lived in Innisfail until retiring to Calgary in 1971. They have one son John Lauchlin, who lives in Denver and has two children; and one daughter, Elizabeth-ann Catherine (Mrs. P. Connellan) who lives in Calgary and has two children. John Jr. for many years was an exhibitor and Judge of sheep at leading shows in Canada and United States. He won the Alberta and Ontario Rifle Championships and many other Provincial and Dominion awards.

He was on the Innisfail School Board for 35 years. Some members he served with were Wm. Champ, Robt. Stuart, Wm. Jackson, Norman McLeod, Wm.



Wm. and John Wilson, 1911.

Watt. He was on the Innisfail Hospital Board for 17 years; the Red Deer College Board; Chairman of the County of Red Deer School Committee; on the executive of Alberta School Trustees Assoc.; Member of the Senate, University of Calgary; Director Canadian Cooperative Wool Growers for 35 years (18 as President); President Canadian and Alberta Sheep Breeders; President Innisfail Board of Trade. John Jr. was one of five men in Canada on which the Knight of the Golden Fleece Award was conferred. He is a director of the Calgary Exhibition and Stampede. The Innisfail John Wilson Elementary School is named for him.

Elizabeth Wilson died in 1948 and is buried in Innisfail. John Wilson Sr. died in 1970 and is buried in Innisfail.

CHARLES & VIOLA WOOD by Mrs. Grace Marcil & Mrs. Mary Byer

Our parents Charles and Viola Wood homesteaded West and North of Bowden in 1905 (R.R. 3 - Innisfail). Dad arrived here in 1904 from England. His father Thomas Charles Wood and Dad had been in the business of salvaging ships and cargoes in England. Grandfather retired from this business in 1902 and died shortly after. Dad decided to come to Canada "the land of Golden Opportunities" and sailed from Liverpool aboard the Canadian Dominion ship in 1904. Dad was born in 1883.

Mother was the daughter of Robert and Elizabeth Reid. The Reids' had arrived previously coming West by ox-cart. Grandpa Reid was six feet tall and had a lovely long red beard. He was born in 1858, died in 1939. Grandmother Reid was born in 1866 and died in 1951. They had 12 children: Robert, Arthur, Leslie, Sarah, Ella, Esther, Viola (Mother), Lottie, Alice, Kenneth, Mabel and George who was killed in WWI.



Chas. and Viola, 1929, Silver Wedding Anniversary with the family.

George Whitelock came from England to New York in 1856 and to Calgary in 1892, later taking up a homestead south-west of Bowden in 1893. His wife Jane was born in England in 1845. They raised a large family (12 or 13 children) one of which was our grandmother Elizabeth (Reid). Great Grandmother was terrified of the buffalo and rightly so as they walked the trail that went right past her door on the homestead. The Whitelocks travelled from New York to Calgary by ox cart. George Whitelock died in 1926 at the age of 99 years; his wife died in 1932 aged 89 years.

Dad had been a top swimmer in England and swam the English Channel. He was often called on to recover bodies from drowning in the Big Red Deer River. Dad, with the help of Grandpa Reid, built a log house in 1904 on his homestead. The logs were 8 feet long in some cases and the barn was 70 feet long. Most of the children were born in this log house. Neighbors advised Dad to farm with oxen. The trouble was when heel flies got to the oxen, they would take off for the nearest slough.

Early neighbors were the Delbacks, Murrays, Welches, Cummings, Whites, Henry Black, H. Robinsons — with sons Harry and Eddie and daughter Marjorie. Later there were Joe & George Miller, Schraders, Gillespies, Ranke and Dave Fordyce. Jimmy Witherspoon was a remittance man we knew so well. He built the Moose Mountain Hall and had large paintings of the then Royal family displayed on the walls. (J.R. Hopkins now has the building). Folks for miles around would come to the dances held here and the many social events. Jimmies' people sent out Mr. Grundie to look after Jimmie. We remember hearing Jimmie giving Mr. Grundie orders from morning to night and they would get into arguments continually. Mr. Grundie had the post office to look after too.

Children born to Mr. & Mrs. Charles Wood were: Grace (Mrs. Robert Marcil) see Marcil story; Violet (Mrs. Spankie) of Qualicum Bay, B.C.; Mary (Mrs. Ralph Byer) of Calgary; Frances (resides in Edmonton) and George and Charles.

Grace was born on the Milo Norman farm at Dickson in 1907. Dad was working for Mr. Norman

and that morning the two men had left to haul feed at 5 a.m. Mother knew the delivery would be soon, so got all ready and delivered the baby herself. Mrs. Norman, who taught school stopped in at noon to see how she was and the baby and mother were fine. Baby weighed 9 lbs. 3 oz. That spring Mother and Dad moved back to their homestead and loaded their possessions in the democrat and started out. They had to ford the Red Deer river. The horses got to fighting in the water and the democrat was bobbing up and down. One horse got his foot over the neck yoke. Dad tried to get his foot back out and got his own coat caught in the breast-strap. Mother laid the baby (Grace) on the seat and got down to undo the trace. Mother couldn't swim. Dad told her to take the baby and wade over to a tree about half-way down the shore. When she was six feet from shore, a whirlpool took her under. Dad finally got to her and then saved Grace.

We children attended White Creek school. After school there was the job of rounding up the cows for milking. The children wore either home-made clothing or hand-me-downs.



L. to R.: Charlie, Grace, Violet, Mary, Frances, George.

There used to be terrible bush fires and many a time we thought our home would go up in smoke. We would have to chase our stock out to the open range and when the fires passed, bring them home again.

We traded farm produce for groceries in Innisfail at G.W. West's store and sold fire wood. We would take the wheat to Rosebud and Didsbury to get it ground into flour.

Dad and Mother farmed and tried raising cattle, sheep, chickens, horses and pigs. They had to sell everything when two of the children died. After this it was a real struggle. Mother was a very hard worker and worked as much as any man — pitching bundles on threshing crews, stooking, running the old binder digging post holes and cooking for threshing crews. She used her riding horse back and forth packing kettles and everything needed to go and cook meals for eight or ten men, coming home late, and then doing it all over again.

In 1915 we returned to Ontario and Dad joined the Armed Forces in W.W.I. going overseas. He was gassed and was at Vimy Ridge. We returned to the homestead in 1919.

I, Mary, have five children, Judy, Marlene, Linda, Wendy Lynn and Roger.

Chas. T. Wood, born July 1, 1883, died Mar. 17, 1934, interred in Field of Honor at Bowden. Mother passed away in 1950 at the age of 65 years.

There are four generations of pioneers in our family who lived within the Innisfail district.

DAVID WOOD by Margaret Smith

David and Helen Wood came to Canada in 1906 from the Orkney Islands in the north of Scotland where Dad was a miller in a grist mill. They decided to emigrate to where there were more opportunities for their boys. They crossed the ocean in the boat 'Cassandra' with their family of John, James, Francis, Charles and Margaret. It was a long rough voyage and it wasn't long before everyone was turning green.

Mother and children waited in Montreal while Dad travelled looking for a place to settle. He came to Alberta to around Gleichen where it was very dry with large cracks in the ground and all he saw was Indians. We moved to a farm at Elva, Manitoba and the boys all worked out for extra money. Then after four years we went to Mission City, B.C. to a place with fruit trees and berries and lots of hard work. The boys all went there with us, but Jim and Frank went back to work on farms in Manitoba. The rest of the family moved to Innisfail in 1915 to a farm in Knee Hill Valley.

Mother, Dad and Jack are buried in Innisfail; Jim at Melita, Manitoba. Frank and his wife live at Kelowna, B.C.; Charlie and his wife and Margaret live at Innisfail.

David Wood died in 1939, aged 79 years; Helen Wood died in 1949, aged 75 years; John Wood died in 1954, aged 63 years. James Wood died in 1954, aged 62 years.

STEWART E. WOOD by Stewart E. Wood

I was born in Toronto, June 28, 1897 and attended York Mills Public School, North Toronto Collegiate and Shaws Business College in Toronto.

I served with the Canadian Field Artillery in France and Belgium in 1917-1919 and was at Vimy, Ypres, Amiens and Mons. I was a member of the 43rd Battery Association and will have 54 yrs. in this fall.

It was in August of 1921 I came to Alberta on the harvesters excursion. At this time I visited my cousin Mrs. R.J. Baird who lived in the Grahamston district. They had come west with Heather Thompson in 1920 both men having been soldier settlers. Bob Baird had been born in the Scarboro township about 1895 and he died in 1963 and wife El, in 1965.

After coming out of the army I did some carpenter work in Toronto and then decided to come West for good. I married the former Mary E. Walton who came from Ontario. We were married in Pierson, Man in June 1922.



Mr. and Mrs. S. E. Wood on their 50th Anniversary.

It was in March 1922 that I purchased the farm from David Beggs in the Buffalo Creek District. To start with we milked cows and fed hogs. The crops in 1922 were dried out and there was very little grain around.

For entertainment we spent considerable time skating, attending football & baseball games. The W.J. Millers, N. Donovans, & J.W. Thompsons were not only our farm neighbors, but good friends.

A couple of slogans I shall never forget were: "When you get to the end of the rope, tie a knot in it and hang on" — this certainly applied to us all in the Dirty Thirties. Another I recall was G.W. West's "Teach your dollars to have more cents".

Organizations I have been affiliated with were: Innisfail Agricultural Society with John Wilson & George Oakes, the Innisfail Board of Trade with William Watt, J.A. Laird & George Bryan; the Canadian Order of Foresters with William Champ, James Law & Reg Crispin; the Knights of Pythias along with Dr. C. Greene, Harry Low, Dick Kremer & Ray Dial; the Bowden Lodge A.F. & A.M. and in 1944 I was a District Deputy Grand Master.

I am a Past Chief Ranger for the Canadian Order of Foresters & financial secretary & Past Grand Chancellor for the K.P.'s. I served as a school trustee for the Buffalo Creek school and a member of the church board for the Innisfail United Church. I was in the Innisfail Great War Veterans Assn. and then in the Canadian Legion No. 104 which came about after the G.W.V.A.

When I first came into this area those I remember so well were the W.J. Millers, N. Donovans, George Calder, Robert Huntley, J.W. Thompson, John Wilson, Ed Tester, Alex Davidson, William Cameron and Ernest Dennis.

My wife and I have one son Howard Stewart who lives on the farm. He married Eleanor J. Whetter of Toronto in 1957 and they have 2 children.

NATHANIEL WRIGHT by Thelma C. Koots

Nathaniel Wright was born December 20, 1860 in Fitzroy Harbor, Ontario. He helped his father on their maple tree farm in Ontario until coming west to Poplar Grove in 1887 to homestead in the Little Red Deer district. He had two quarters of land which he ploughed with two oxen; cut brush with an axe and grubbed the roots out with a grub hoe. He used the roots for firewood. In 1890, Miss Susan Pierce came out from Carleton County, Ontario to marry Nathaniel. He made a home-made birch sleigh (no steel runners in those days) and travelled to Calgary to meet his bride. They were married on New Years Day. After the ceremony, they made the trip back to their log cabin in the Poplar Grove area. Before Innisfail was a trading post, Mr. Wright travelled to Calgary on horseback to buy food and clothing. They also had a garden and grew enough potatoes to keep them all winter. They started with two cows for milk and later on as the herd increased they had their own meat. In those days they would keep meat in a salt brine in the summer and in the winter would freeze it outside.

Mr. Wright helped to build the Little Red Deer school house and served as a trustee for a number of years. Mrs. Wright was one of the founders of the Little Red Deer Dorcas Society in 1912. They had ten children; five are still living and five are dead. One son, Isaac, joined WWI in 1914 when he was 16 years old, returning in 1918.

Nathaniel Wright died March 7, 1949; Susan Wright died June 11, 1949.

THE WYNN FAMILY by James Leeson Wynn

My father, Robert Wynn was born at Carleton Place, Ontario, November 7, 1847. My mother, the former Susan Kidd lived in the County of Carleton in Bruce County, Ontario. They were married June 6th, 1877.

Robert Wynn was a railroad Engineer and came west to Swift Current, Sask. with the Railroad and then moved to Banff. He retired from the C.P.R. and started a dairy in Banff. Banff was made part of the National Park and cattle were not allowed in the Park which resulted in the Wynn's moving to Innisfail.

Robert, his wife, and two sons, Percy (Pete) Howard and James Leeson came to homestead outside of Innisfail in 1892. They moved to the Knee Hill Valley area to farm and raise cattle in 1896. It was when he moved to Innisfail that he got a few cattle together in order to keep his two sons in school at Innisfail. He leased his cattle out and returned to Banff area for a period. While he was in Banff the two sons attended school in Innisfail (1892-1896). It is of interest that the boys attended school in Banff along with the Brewster brothers. When he returned to Innisfail the family moved to the Knee Hill Valley area where he farmed and also raised Clydesdale Horses as he had a real well-bred stallion. In about 1912 the family moved to Edmonton and until his retirement he was an engineer with the Public Works Dept. of the City of Edmonton.

While in the Knee Hill Valley area they relied a lot on the hay crops and for two years in a row they lost this crop to Prairie Fires. When they lost all their hay crop they had to haul feed sixteen miles. Farming at this time was pretty hard and most of the time was spent in picking roots, and brushing to clear the land.

Their closest neighbors were the Bilttons, two miles on one side of their farm, and the Gunstons two miles the other side.

There was hard work on the farm, but they were interested in horses and raised Clydesdales and good saddle horses. They had a good Hackney stud. Howard was particularly interested in the saddle horses and about 1911, when the Edmonton Police Force became mounted he supplied their horses. Because some of these had to be broken, Howard moved to Edmonton with the horses and continued his residence in Edmonton.

Robert Wynn's greatest interest was the masonic Lodge and he knew the Ritual of all degrees in the Scottish Rite. He founded the Masonic Lodge in Innisfail and later Lodge No. 77 in Edmonton. He was a personal friend of John Simpson and Fred Archer who had a feed and lumber mill in Innisfail.

Son Percy (Pete) Howard married Jessie B. Whiteside on June 22, 1904. They were married at the Whiteside home near Penhold. Percy Howard died December 12, 1919. James Leeson never married and at present is residing in the Good Samaritan Home in Edmonton, Alberta.

The family of Percy (Pete) Howard and Jessie Wynn were: Maxwell, Lawrence, Gordon and Russell. Lawrence and Gordon reside in Edmonton; Russell is in Kimberley; and Max is in Winnipeg.

Max married the former Nellie Smith in Innisfail and have five children: Jim, Lois, Howard, Jean and



Susan Kidd Wynn

Robert Wynn



Lt. Col. Max Wynn

Doris. These children attended school in Innisfail. Max was the buyer and head of the department for Mens' Wear for G.W. West & Son for many years prior to enlisting in W.W. II. He was in the Army (Calgary Highlanders) and retired as a Lt. Col. Gordon Kenneth was in navigation with the R.C.A.F. and retired as a Group Captain; Russell was a Pilot in the R.C.A.F. and retired as a Flt. Lieut. Max

returned from war to Innisfail, he later moved with the V.L.A. to Winnipeg where he retired from this occupation last year (1972).

Robert Wynn died June 21, 1925 and Percy Howard died December 12, 1919. Both are interred in Edmonton South.

MR. ARTHUR YOUNG by G. Hoar

Mr. Young, a cousin of Archie Hoar came from Hawkhurst, Kent, England in 1905 with a brother of Mrs. Bill Robinson to the Hutchin's quarter, south of Hammond Gates. He hired out and tells that he drove 50 head of cattle to water every afternoon during the first winter and hauled straw six miles for his room and board.

He worked at several places and then went to Wilkie, Sask — a bustling railroad town to work as a bartender at the hotel. In May, 1915 he joined the Army and went overseas. He returned in 1918 and bought his quarter section through the Soldiers' Settlement Board. He married Mrs. Hoar's sister, Agnes Newman, who had come to work for the Hoar's in 1923. They had no children.

Mrs. Young died in May, 1948 and Arthur died in May 1956. Both are buried in the Innisfail Cemetery.

Cricket games were often played at the Young place. Christmas and New Years were spent entertaining the Hoars, Gus Roper, a bachelor who homesteaded south of the Hewitt homestead when he was 16 years old, and Rex Avenell — known as "The Professor". Roper had one of the first radios (crystal set) in the neighborhood. The winter's recreation was visiting neighbors.

The Hewitts, Hoar's, Young's and Roper took turns going to the Knee Hill store for the mail and delivery meant an afternoon of tea and talk. Roper had a famous saddle horse which was the envy of many of the school boys because of its' speed.



Push binder at Young's with McCaw's and Bob Philipps.

Innisfail, Alta.,

Nov 30/09

ACCOUNT NO. 5

M

AGENT FOR...

FROST & WOOD
FARM IMPLEMENTS
NATIONAL CREAM
SEPARATORS
CHICAGO
AERMOTOR WIND-
MILLS
WATEROUS ENGINE
CO.

BOUGHT
OF

JOHN A. SIMPSON

LUMBER MERCHANT

FLOUR, FARM MACHINERY, WAGONS, SLEIGHS, BUGGIES,
DEMOCRATS, SHINGLES, PAPER, ETC.

DATE		FEET	PRICE	FOLIO	DEBIT AMOUNT	CREDIT AMOUNT	TOTAL
Nov 9	Balance Forward						
" 20	To 18 ft csg			3368	72		
	34-2x4x14 B.C.	317					
	20-2x4x12 B.C.	160	477	3408	1049		\$ 11 21

Phone 29

STATEMENT

ACCOUNT NO.

THE WATT HARDWARE CO., Ltd.

GUNS, RIFLES AND
AMMUNITION

Hardware and Harness.
TINNING and FURNACE WORK

STEEL RANGES, STOVES, TIN-
WARE, PAINTS and OILS

Innisfail, Alberta. Jan. 31, 1923

Sold to
TERMS: All Accounts Due and Rendered Monthly. Inter-
est at Rate of 8 p. c. Charged on Overdue Accounts.

Town

DATE	ARTICLES	FOLIO	CREDIT AMOUNT	DEBIT AMOUNT	TOTAL
Jan 8	3- Canned Heat		✓	75	
Jan 12	Hoof 25 Padlock 30 Shuck Belts 05		+	60	✓
" 16	4 Belts 1/4 1 3/4 10 Canned Heat 50		+	60	
" 18	12 in flat file		+	55	✓
" 19	3 gal oil can			135	
" 21	18 lb Iron Rope		+	450	✓
" 25	Pine Saw		+	40	✓
" 29	Square Crp		+	25	✓
" 30	Packing		+	70	✓
					970

clear out

450
65
70

Added Charge
50
75
135

INNISFAIL, ALTA.,

Aug 19

190

IN ACCOUNT
WITH

MISS SIMPSON

RUGGIST, OPTICIAN AND STATIONER

SCHOOL AND PHOTOGRAPHIC SUPPLIES

	ARTICLE	PRICE	DEBIT	CREDIT	BALANCE
Aug 5	Velox Post Cards		.40		
6	1 roll #2 Brownie Film		.20		
	No. 2. Folding Brownie Camera		6.00		
7	Film ⁴⁰		.40		
10	Brownie Developing Box		1.00		
	Developing Powder		.40		
	Graduate		.10		
12	Acid Fixing Fluid ¹⁰ Shit Dmoric ²⁵		.40		
16	Velox ²⁰ Film ⁴⁰		.60		
			<u>\$9.50</u>		
Aug 20	2x Patterson ³⁰ (21) Index Book ²⁵		.55		
2	Cards ¹⁰ pens ⁵		.15		
			<u>\$10.20</u>		

Town of Innisfail

D. MITCHELL
SECRETARY-TREASURERINNISFAIL, ALBERTA
CANADA

19th Nov. 1909.

G.W. West Esq.

Innisfail.

Dear Sir:-

I beg to advise you that at a meeting of the Fire Brigade held last evening I submitted your letter to the brigade.

It was evidently the feeling of the brigade that one man (their present secretary) was not capable of sufficiently expressing the feelings of the brigade in regard to your gift and a special committee was formed to draft a letter to you which I will forward upon receipt.



Leaving Texas to get a Free Home in
Western Canada.

Canadian
Government
Agency,

1211 CONGRESS AVENUE

FREE HOMESTEADS
—FOR—
—THOUSANDS OF ACTUAL
SETTLERS
IN THE
CANADIAN NORTHWEST,
CAPT. E. BARRETT,
AGENT.

Houston, Texas *July 22d* 190*4*

Mr G. W. West
Innisfail
Alberta Canada
Friend West

What can you furnish me
10 or 12 thousand Bushels of feed oats (new
crop) for in bulk on the track at Innisfail
I would want them in two lots. Say 5 or 6 Cars
at a time -

How is Chapman and Chesnut getting
along this year. is Mat Spears there yet
how is Luke getting along in the printing office
pleas tell me all the news and oblige
Yours Truly

Capt E. B. Barrett
Houston
Texas

P.S. I expect to be able to
bring a party to Alberta in September.
E.B.

Respects to all -

Capt. E. Barrett, }
Houston, Texas. }

DEAR SIR—I must state that I have taken up 160 acres in Section 22, Township 47, Range 21, and I have also taken up a C. P. R. 160 acres in Section 21, in same Township, and I am building a blacksmith shop right at the store and post office on Bittern Lake, 20 miles from Wetaskiwin. This is truly a fine country and a fine country for a poor man to get a start in. All the land in this township is taken up. There has been 90 people come in here since I came here and I think I can have a good trade. Send some pamphlets to Mr. Prince at Kerrville, he has two sons; he wants to locate them here. They can do well for they have some money to invest. The land is going fast. Parties are coming in all the time.

F. LANGSTON, Bittern Lake.

NOTE—Mr. Langston went from Ingrams, Kerr County, Texas, to Canada in April, 1901.—CAPT. E. BARRETT.

CAPT. E. BARRETT,
CANADIAN GOVERNMENT AGENT, }
HOUSTON, TEXAS. }

WACO, TEXAS, July 13, 1901.

DEAR SIR—Yours of the 10th duly to hand. I am glad to hear that you are able to convince EVEN A TEXAN that there is a country in the world in which they can make a better living than in Texas. I have failed to do it here, although I have oats, wheat and Timothy hay to show them, 5 feet high, which I brought back with me from Alberta last fall. You ask what I think about the country. To put it as brief as possible, I can say truthfully there is no other country on the face of the earth which offers so much in every particular for the farmer. The pamphlets issued by the Canadian Government do not near cover the prospects there is for the farmer. Yes, I intend to move there just as soon as I am able. I intend to settle somewhere between Olds and Wetaskiwin, on the Calgary & Edmonton R. R., or within 20 miles of that railroad. I am in earnest about this and will be ready to leave here as soon as arrangements can be made. If you will send me the address of parties INTERESTED in this locality I will try to have a talk with them in your behalf.

Yours, Respectfully, ARTHUR RHODES.

MOTHERS HOME MADE BREAD

I've heard them speak of biscuits,

"Like Mother used to make".

I've heard them tell of cookies

Apple pie and Chocolate cake,

But for good old joy in eating

When the hungry must be fed

I prefer some homemade butter

And a loaf of "Mothers Bread".

There was love went in the mixing,

And the kneading of the dough,

There was care went in the watching,

That the fire burned, just so.

There was hearty satisfaction

When she took them "golden brown"

From the oven to the table

And there, turned them upside down.

Then she greased them well with butter,

Bottoms, sides and tops and ends.

And to see them there a-cooking,

Was like greeting "old time friends"

And I'd give a bakers' dozen

Of the loaves which now I spread

For a bit of home made butter

And a loaf of "Mothers Bread.

Submitted by Ethel Smith

P. BURNS & COMPANY, LIMITED

CALGARY, CANADA

Nov. 25th, 1909.

DEAR SIR,

We beg to quote you the following prices on Packing House Products and Provisions, F.O.B. Calgary, these prices being subject to change without notice.

Sugar Cured Hams, 10-12 average.....	"	.18
Sugar Cured Hams, 14-16 ".....	"	.18
Sugar Cured Hams, 20-25 ".....	"	.18
Picnic Hams.....	"	.15
Cottage Hams.....	"	none
N Y Shoulders, heavy.....	"	none
N Y Shoulders, medium.....	"	none
N Y Shoulders, light, choice.....	"	none
Breakfast Bacon Bellies 8-10.....	"	.21
Breakfast Bacon Bellies 10-12.....	"	.21
Breakfast Bacon Bellies 12-14.....	"	.21
Breakfast Bacon Bellies, English Cured.....	"	.21
Breakfast Bacon Backs, medium.....	"	none
Breakfast Bacon Backs, light.....	"	none
Breakfast Bacon Skinned Backs, light lean.....	"	none
Dry Salt Long Clear.....	"	.17
Dry Salt Short Clear.....	"	none
Dry Salt Loin Backs.....	"	.17
Dry Salt Long Clears, smoked.....	"	none
Dry Salt Short Clear, Smoked.....	"	none
Spiced Roll.....	"	none
Boneless Shoulders, smoked.....	"	none
Jowls, Smoked.....	"	none
(All meats shipped in 100 lb. sacks, unless otherwise specified). If shipped in 100 lb. cases $\frac{1}{4}$ c. per lb. extra.		
Imperator Hams (cooked).....	"	.26
Selkirk Hams (cooked).....	"	none

SHAMROCK LEAF LARD

Tierces.....	per lb.	.18
50 lb. pails.....	"	.18 $\frac{1}{4}$
20 lb. pails.....	"	.18 $\frac{3}{8}$
20 lb. tins.....	"	.18 $\frac{3}{8}$
10 lb. tins, 6 to case.....	"	.18 $\frac{3}{4}$
5 lb. tins, 12 to case.....	"	.18 $\frac{3}{8}$
3 lb. tins, 20 to case.....	"	.19

"WHITE CARNATION" LARD COMPOUND

Tierces.....	per lb.	14 $\frac{1}{2}$
50 lb. pails (wood).....	"	14 $\frac{3}{4}$
20 lb. pails (wood).....	"	14 $\frac{3}{8}$

PICKLED GOODS.

Pigs' Feet (18 lb. kits).....	per kit	\$1.50
Pigs' Feet (32 lb. kits).....	"	2.60
Pickled Pigs Tongues (18 lb. kits).....	"	2.20
Pickled Pigs Tongues (32 lb. kits).....	"	3.60
Lambs' Tongue (18 lb. kits).....	"	3.65
Lambs' Tongue (32 lb. kits).....	"	6.20
Tripe (18 lb. kits).....	"	1.40
Tripe (32 lb. kits).....	"	2.20
Pigs Feet, Pigs Tongues, Lamb Tongues and Tripe are put up in half bbls., bbls. and tierces. Write for special prices.		
Corned Beef (200 lb. bbls.).....	per bbl.	14.00
Corned Beef (100 lb. bbls.).....	"	7.50
Mess Pork (200 lb. bbls.).....	"	22.50
Mess Pork (100 lb. bbls.).....	"	12.00

NEATS FOOT OIL

Pint Tins.....	per tin	.25
Quart Tins.....	"	.35
Half Gallon Tins.....	"	.60
One Gallon Tins.....	"	\$1.00
Five Gallon Tins.....	"	4.50
Half Bbls. and Bbls.....	per gal.	.85

FISH

Smelts.....	per lb.	.11
Halibut.....	per lb.	.09
Cod.....	"	.08
Salmon.....	"	.11
White Fish, round.....	"	.08
White Fish, dressed.....	"	none
Finnan Haddies in 15 lb. and 30 lb. boxes.....	"	.10
Fresh Mackerel.....	"	.12 $\frac{1}{2}$
Fresh Herring, in 50 lb. boxes.....	"	.8
Fresh Haddock.....	"	.8
Trout.....	"	.7
Kippers.....	per box (20 lbs. net)	.12

SAUSAGES

PORK SAUSAGE		
Special.....	per lb.	.12 $\frac{1}{2}$
Standard.....	"	.10
Crescent Brand.....	"	.7 $\frac{1}{2}$
BOLOGNA		
Standard.....	"	.7 $\frac{1}{2}$
Crescent Brand.....	"	.6
Weinerwurst.....	"	.12
Ham Sausage.....	"	.7 $\frac{1}{2}$
Liver Sausage.....	"	.7 $\frac{1}{2}$
Blood Sausage.....	"	.7 $\frac{1}{2}$
Head Cheese.....	"	.7 $\frac{1}{2}$
Salami Sausage.....	"	.29
Summer Sausage.....	"	.26

(In lots of 50 lbs., boxes supplied free)

SPECIALS

"Alberta" Ham.....	per lb.	.14
Compressed Ham.....	per lb.	.12 $\frac{1}{2}$
Smoked Hog Tongues.....	per doz.	.75
Mince Meat, in 28 lb. pails.....	per lb.	10 $\frac{1}{2}$
Mince Meat, in 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. pails.....	"	10 $\frac{1}{2}$
Mince Meat, in 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. pails.....	"	11

CASINGS

Hog Casings (in 25 lb. packages).....	per lb.	.45
Hog Casings (in 100 lb. packages).....	"	.40
Beef Bungs (in 25 lb. packages).....	per pce.	.16
Beef Bungs (in 100 lb. packages).....	"	.14
Beef Rounds (in 25 lb. packages).....	per sett.	.30
Beef Rounds (in 100 lb. packages).....	"	.26
Beef Middles (in 25 lb. packages).....	"	.65
Beef Middles (in 100 lb. packages).....	"	.60
Sheep Casings (in 25 lb. packages).....	skein	1.25
Sheep Casings (in 100 lb. packages).....	"	1.00

FERTILIZER

Dried Blood (sack lots).....	per lb.	.2 $\frac{1}{2}$
Dried Blood (ton lots).....	per ton	\$40.00
Dried Tankage (sack lots).....	per lb.	.2
Dried Tankage (ton lots).....	per ton	\$30.00
Ground Bone (sack lots).....	per lb.	.2
Ground Bone (ton lots).....	per ton	\$30.00
Bone Meal (sack lots).....	per lb.	.2 $\frac{1}{2}$
Bone Meal (ton lots).....	per ton	\$35.00

CHICKEN FEEDS

Blood and Bone.....	.03
Meat Meal.....	.04
Beef Scrap.....	.04
Ground Bone (coarse).....	.02 $\frac{1}{2}$
Raw Bone.....	.04

(Put up in Sacks)

Our meats are fresh smoked, and as they are sacked at time orders are received, you can always figure on the meats being fresh and not moldy, and fresh smoked meats sell.

Soliciting your orders and your consignments of Butter, Eggs and Poultry,

We are, Yours truly,

P. BURNS & CO., Limited

MUNICIPALITY OF INNISFAIL

DEMAND FOR TAXES, 1909

Receipt No.

Date of mailing this demand **SEP 11 1909**

Mr.

According to the collector's roll, the following taxes are due from you. **UNLESS PAYMENT IS MADE WITHIN 30 DAYS FROM MAILING HEREOF WARRANT OF DISTRESS MAY ISSUE FOR COLLECTION.** Interest at 6 per cent. will be charged on all taxes in arrears on 1st January, 1910. All lands when in arrears for more than two years may be sold for taxes. **ALL CHEQUES** in payment of taxes must be marked and payable **AT PAR** at Innisfail.

Gross Municipal Assessment, \$535,129.00

Gross School Assessment, 754,858.00

Details of Tax Levy { Municipal Rate 3 mills on the dollar
School Rate 8 mills on the dollar
Debenture Rate 4 mills on the dollar
Total 15

DAVID MITCHELL, Secretary-Treasurer

ON LL	SECTION	LOT	BLOCK	TOTAL ASSESSMENT	ARREARS	MUNICIPAL TAXES	SCHOOL TAXES	DEBENTURE TAXES	TOTAL TAXES
58	345	1		5000 00		15 00	40 00	20 00	75 00

INNISFAIL, **SEP 1 1909** 19
ALBERTA, CANADA

IN ACCT.
WITH

The Province Printers

GEO. R. WESTLAND

The Province—Weekly Newspaper
\$1.00 per year

Commercial and Society Printing
of every description

Accounts rendered and payable monthly.

Interest at 1 per cent. per month charged on all overdue accounts

By 1	To a/c rendered As the bulk of this a/c is long overdue, I will thank you for a settlement this week D. Roll. Sept 2. Rec'd payment Thanks Geo. R. Westland	35-20
-------------	---	--------------

O. T. DAYKIN

F. T. JACKSON

DAYKIN & JACKSON

WHOLESALE

PRODUCE, FRUIT AND HAY

ARMSTRONG, B.C.
CANADA

October 7th, 1909.

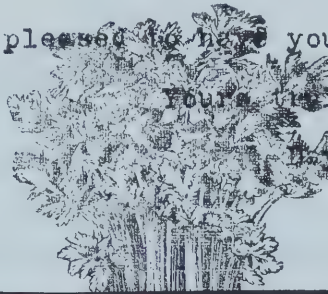
Dear Sir:- We are now in position to ship you choice, well bleached celery in any quantity for 6 cents per pound f.o.b. our station and make shipments daily or in any way you wish.

We shall be pleased to have your order.

Yours truly,

Daykin and Jackson.

per.



P. Burns & Co. Limited
Wholesale and Retail Meat Merchants
Dealers in Live Stock and Pork Packers.

HEAD OFFICE: *Calgary, Canada.*
May 27 th 1910

Dear Sir;

We have your letter of 26 inst. re price of veal, would say that the price still remains the same 11¢ F.O.B. Calgary.

Yours Truly

P. Burns & CO LTD.

9/24/09.

To Ad for Aug,	3.00
To Ad for Sept. 2nd	75
" " " " 9th	75
" " " " 16th	75
" " " " 23rd	75

	6.00

BENEDIKSON BROS.

DEALERS IN
Dry Goods, Groceries, Clothing, Boots and Shoes.
FLOUR, FEED AND PRODUCE.

Findastoll, Alta. July 12 1900.

*Knicker supply Co
Innisfail*

*Please charge us with \$4.45
Whitely B. Stephens and you and*



EXPORTER OF HAY, OATS, BEEF, PORK, BUTTER AND EGGS

G. W. WEST

GENERAL DEALER IN
Groceries, Fresh and Cured Meats, Flour and Feed, Boots and Shoes,
Crockery, Hardware

I 836

UNION BANK OF CANADA.
INNISFAIL, N.W.T.
B.C. 3163

Innisfail, Alta. Aug 20 1909

The Bank of Canada

Innisfail Agricultural Society

INNISFAIL, SEPTEMBER 8TH, 1909

DEAR SIR,—

The Sixth Annual Summer Stock Fair of the Innisfail Agricultural Society was held on July 12th and 13th, 1909, and as you are no doubt aware, the Society was unfortunate in having very stormy weather. This was responsible for the smallest attendance in the history of the Society, and coupled with the fact that the Board of Directors went to larger expenses to make the fair more attractive, the finances of the Society are not so flourishing as in former years. While it cannot be said that the Society went very much behind, still, the wet weather caused a shrinkage in the receipts and the Society is therefore unable to carry out any further improvements. This matter is brought to your attention so that you may become conversant with the affairs of the Society.

The eighteenth annual fall fair will be held on October 7th and 8th, and you are requested to use your influence in every way possible to make this fair the most successful in the history of the Society. With good crops of grain, roots and vegetables there is no reason why the fair should not be a record one. All that is required is a little co-operative assistance from the residents of the district.

We would respectfully ask you to review the work of the Innisfail Agricultural Society during the past years and decide if it warrants any assistance from you. If you consider the Society is doing good work we would appeal to you and ask: First, if you are already a member that you use your best endeavors to secure at least one new member before the fall fair; Second, if you are not yet a member, that you call upon the Secretary, or mail him your membership fee and become connected with the Society. In connection with the membership we would point out that there are only 150 members of the Innisfail Agricultural Society at the present time. Surely in this district there are enough to bring the membership of the Society to at least 500.

Thanking you in anticipation of your assistance and support in this forward movement of the Society, we are, on behalf of the Board of Directors,

Your obedient servants,

JOSEPH SMITH, President

EDWARD J. FREAM, Secretary

P. McDERMOTT

AGENT FOR

CASE

Threshers, Engines, Belts and Supplies

COCKSHUTT

Plows, Harrows, Drills and Wagons

IDEAL

Gasoline Engines, Windmills and Grinders

Page and Great West Woven Fence

Standard, Singer and Raymond Sewing Machines

Walker Pilot and Record Ranges

Cockshutt Engine Gangs

Adams Wagons and Trucks

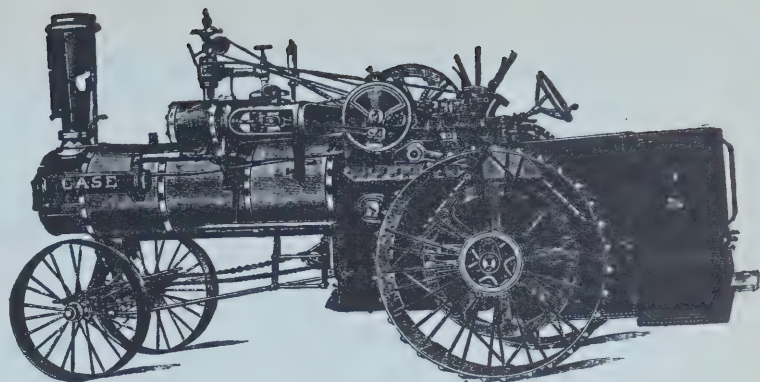
Barrie and Armstrong Buggies

Dingee Woodbury Horse Powers

CREAM SEPARATORS

Adams Bros. Haruess

Elephant and Maple Leaf Paint



Bowden, Alberta. 12 April 1910

Gowest E.

Dear Sir - I wish you
would ship me this
afternoon if possible

✓ 2 Kys 2 1/2 nail

will give you
ex 10¢ time I
am up -

✓ 2 " 3 "

1 " 1 1/2 "

✓ 1 " 4 "

st. 1 - 4 ^{shut in} hole camp stove if you have it -

Yours truly

P. MC DERMOTT,
HARDWARE & C,
BOWDEN ALTA

P. J. NOLAN, LL. B.,

BARRISTER, SOLICITOR,
NOTARY, ETC.

P. O. BOX 22

TELEPHONE 85

HERALD BLOCK

CALGARY, ALTA.

April 27th 1902

J. N. Rankin Esq.

Rancher's Supply Store

Innisfail.

Dear Sir,

Re Olmstead et al

I shall get the papers from Mr.
Bernard on Monday. There is nothing

RAVEN, ALBERTA, Feb 17 1902

M.

Innisfail

In Acc't With

The Innisfail Lumber Co.

TERMS: Cash on delivery; Interest charged on all overdue accounts

Please give Mrs Johnson Campbell \$10.⁰⁰
worth of goods and charge to the

Innisfail Lumber Co
Per J. B. M.

INNISFAIL BRICK YARD

D. H. KREMER, Proprietor

MANUFACTURER OF

Veneer Brick

Foundation Brick

Well Brick



The White Swan Creamery

ROBT. McCUE, Proprietor

Manufacturer of First Class
Creamery Butter

First Class Cold Storage in Connection
With the Creamery

Bowden, Alta. 6-18-10

No. *Innisfail W.T. Mch 14 1904*
To the Union Bank of Canada
Pay *Handover & Refers* or Bearer
Seven Dollars.
\$ 2.42 *L. W. Wood*

845C
6741
2
KILGOUR BROTHERS
ADVISE
B. B. N. A.
B/C 7358
TORONTO
No. 10663 Due May 11/1904
Toronto, APR 25 1904
At sight pay to the order of
The Bank of British North America
100 Dollars
B.C. 7895
Received and charge to account of
West
Innisfail, Alta
KILGOUR BROS.
J.P. Macgibbon
ACCEPTED FOR DEPOSIT AT
UNION BANK OF CANADA,
INNISFAIL, N.T.

Prices subject to change without notice.

ORANGES—California Navels.

Oranges, Navels, Extra Fancy Golden Flower, 90s	per case	3.25
" " " " " 96s	"	3.50
" " " " " 112s	"	3.75
" " " " " 126s	"	4.00
" " " " " 150s	"	4.50
" " " " " 176s to 250s	"	5.00
" " " " " 288s & 324s	"	4.50
" " " " " 288s & 324s	"	4.50

LEMONS—California.

Lemons, Fancy Cornet and Mission Brand, 300-360s	"	6.75
Grape Fruit, Fancy Golden Flower, 64-80-96	per case	5.00

STRAWBERRIES

Strawberries, 24 quarts, Hood Rivers	per crate	4.00
--------------------------------------	-----------	------

PINE APPLES.

Florida Pineapples, 30-36-42 size	per crate	5.75
-----------------------------------	-----------	------

CHERRIES

California Cherries, Black Oregon, 10-lb. boxes	per box	2.50
California Cherries, Royal Ann's 10-lb. boxes	"	2.50
Washington Cherries, Black Tartarian, 10-lb. boxes	"	2.25

BANANAS.

Bananas, Fancy Limons	per lb.	.06½
-----------------------	---------	------

VEGETABLES.

Vegetables, Fancy Washington Rhubarb, 40-lb. boxes	per box	1.50
" " " " " Asparagus, 25-lb. boxes	"	2.50
" " " " " Turnips	"	.01½
" " " " " Florida Tomatoes, 36lb. net	per crate	5.00
" " " " " Delaware White Potatoes, New B'wick	per cwt.	1.40
" " " " " Green Mountain	"	1.40
" " " " " B. C. Whites	"	1.20
" " " " " B. C. Reds	"	1.00
" " " " " Ashcroft White Potatoes, B. C.	"	1.50
" " " " " Cucumbers, Victoria Hot House	per doz.	2.50
" " " " " Parsley	per lb.	.15
" " " " " Parsley	per doz.	.50
" " " " " Onions, Australian	per crate	4.50
" " " " " Egyptian Onions, Yellow	"	4.00
" " " " " Cabbage, new, small lots	"	.04½
" " " " " Cabbage, crate lots	"	.04
" " " " " Radish, according to size	per doz.	.40 to .75
" " " " " Onions, according to size	"	.40 to .75
" " " " " Lettuce, according to size	"	.40 to .50
" " " " " California Carrots, new 50-lb. boxes	per lb.	.04
" " " " " Beets, new, 50-lb. boxes	"	.04
" " " " " Peas, Green	"	.10
" " " " " Cauliflower (2 doz. to case)	per doz.	2.25
" " " " " Garlic	Per lb.	.15
" " " " " Gooseberries 10-lb. box	per box	1.25

NUTS.

Nuts, Walnuts, Greenables, large	per lb.	.16
" " " " " Marbots	"	.15
" " " " " Cornes	"	.14
" " " " " Peanuts, green	"	.11
" " " " " Roasted	"	.13
" " " " " Almonds, Tarragons	"	.17
" " " " " Filberts, Sicily's	"	.16
" " " " " Brazils, large	"	.19
" " " " " Walnuts, shelled, Bordeaux hfs.	"	.35
" " " " " Almonds, shelled, Bulls	"	.33
" " " " " Cocoanuts	per doz.	1.20
" " " " " 1c. off all Nuts in sack or box lots.	"	

All Quotations Ex Warehouse, Calgary.

CHEESE.

Cheese, Ontario, new, large	per lb.	.14
" " " " " new, Twins	"	.14½
" " " " " Stiltons	"	.16½

FLOUR.

Flour—5 Roses, 98s	per cwt.	3.05
" " " " " 49s	"	3.10
" " " " " 24s	"	3.15
" " " " " —Harvest Queen, 98s, Jute	"	2.70
" " " " " Rolled Oats, 80s	per sack	1.80
" " " " " 2-40s	"	1.85
" " " " " 4-20s	"	1.90
" " " " " 10-8s	per bale	2.20
" " " " " Cornmeal, 49s	per cwt.	2.80
" " " " " Breakfast Food, 98-6s	"	4.00
" " " " " 98s	"	3.60

NEW HONEY.

Honey—California Comb Honey, 24s	per case	4.50
----------------------------------	----------	------

FISH.

Digby Chicks, 1½ to bundle	per box	.20
Haddies, 30-lb. boxes	"	3.00
Cod Acadia, 24-2s	"	5.25
" " " " " 12-2s	"	2.65
" " " " " Acadia Tablets, 20-1s	"	2.35
" " " " " Dominion Skinless, 100s	per lb.	.7½
" " " " " Bluenose, 20-1s-2s	per box	1.75

CIDER.

Cider—Orange, Cherry and Raspberry (10 gal.)	per keg	5.00
--	---------	------

PURE MAPLE SYRUP AND SUGAR.

Pride of Canada Sugar, ¼, ½, 1, 30-lb. boxes	"	4.00
Maple Squares, 20-lb. pails, each	"	3.00
" " " " " Walnuts, 20-lb. pails, each	"	3.25
" " " " " Pure Maple Syrup, 1 doz. quart bottles	per case	4.00
" " " " " Pure Maple Syrup, 6 gallon case—	"	

Is	per case	7.50
½s	"	7.75
¼s	"	8.00

Compound Syrup, Cabinet Brand—

Is	"	5.75
½s	"	6.00
¼s	"	6.00

FANCY TABLE RAISINS.

Raisins Connoisseur Clusters, 22lb, 3 crowns	per box	3.15
Imperial Russian Cluster, 5½lb, 6 crowns	"	1.60
Royal Buckingham, 5½lb, 5 crowns	"	1.35

NEW DATES.

Hallowi, bulk	per lb.	.6%
---------------	---------	-----

Crushed Fruits, 6 to the case—

Creme De Menthe Cherries, Maraschine Cherries, Walnut Sundae,	per doz.	19.00
Pineapple Crushed, Raspberry Crushed	"	15.00
Crushed Cherries	"	17.00
Strawberry Crushed	"	16.00

Fruit Juices—Put up in gallon jars, 4 to the case

We carry the following flavors in stock—	per gal.	2.50
Banana, cherry, chocolate, claret, coffee, grapes, lemon, orange, pineapple, raspberry, vanilla, sarsaparilla, strawberry.	"	

We will pay \$6.50 per case for fresh eggs. freight shipment.

Do not ship less than three at a time.

Calgary, May 30, 1910.

Two Cars Oregon Strawberries arriving weekly.

Last Car of Naval Oranges Arrive Monday

TROCHU VALLEY CREAMERY

H. DE REINACH-WERTH, PROP.

P. O. TROCHU, ALTA.
R.R. STATION, DIDSBURY, ALTA

TROCHU, ALTA. Feb. 17 / 10 .

Gentlemen ;

We have your note of the 14th inst., advising us that you have drawn on us for \$ 150.00 and beg to say that we do not object to this . However we would ask you as a

INNISFAIL, ALTA. Aug 31st 1909

SOLD TO

OUR GOODS ARE SOLD AT CASH PRICES. ACCOUNTS ARE KEPT FOR CONVENIENCE OF CUSTOMERS, AND PAYMENT IS DUE WHEN ACCOUNTS ARE RENDERED. : : : :

WM. C. PATERSON
GENERAL MERCHANT
THE CASH STORE

INTEREST CHARGED ON OVERDUE ACCOUNTS AT RATE OF 12% PER ANNUM.

DATE	ARTICLES	FOLIO	CREDIT AMOUNT	DEBIT AMOUNT	TOTAL
Aug 31	Wm C Paterson (omitted figures)			2.00	

Innisfail, Alberta

In Account with **The Province Printers**

R. B. DILLINGHAM, Proprietor
Member C. W. N. Association

THE PROVINCE—Weekly
\$2.00 per year

Commercial and Society Printing
of Every Description

All Accounts Net 30 Days

1	To-a/c Rendered	765	33	00	
11	" 14 Page Advt		6	-	
11	" 21 Page Advt.		6	-	
18	" 1/1		1	-	

Statement of The *Imperial* Agricultural Society
for the year 1906.

Dr.	TOTAL RECEIPTS.	TOTAL EXPENDITURE.	Cr.
To Balance on hand from previous year (if any)	\$ 10. 194	By Overdraft at end of previous year (if any)	\$
" Government Grant for Exhibition.	538. 00	" Amount Paid in Prizes at Exhibition	826. 50
" " " Membership & Institute work	1.50. 00	" " " Horse Racing.	
" " " for Experiment Plots.		" " " Other Sports	
" Municipal Grant		" " " Toward Joint Exhibition (if any)	
" Membership Fees	76. 00	" Stationery and Postage	14. 10
" Donations	28. 15	" Printing and Advertising.	133. 15
" Money borrowed from <i>Canadian Bank of Commerce</i>	734. 25	" Officers' Salaries	77. 50
" Proceeds Mortgage on Real Estate	6. 00. 00	" " Expenses	74. 25
" " Sale of Property.		" Insurance	
" " Sale of Seed Grain		" Repayment of Real Estate Mortgage	
" Gate Receipts.	94. 25	" " Loans.	770. 00
" Grand Stand Receipts.		" Bank Interest on Loans.	39. 60
" Advertisements in Prize List	67. 50	" Introduction of Seed, Plants, etc.	
" Exhibition Entry Fees.		" Disbursements on Experiment Plots.	
" " Privileges	7. 00	" Purchase of Purebred Animals.	
" Bank Interest on Deposit		" Prizes for Essays on Agriculture, etc.	
" Receipts from Reunions, Excursions, etc.		" (1) Expenses Agricultural Institute Meeting	1. 50
" Overdraft (if any)		" (2) " " " " " "	
<i>Receipts for payments of</i>		" Taxes	
<i>grounds and for improvements</i>	89. 96	" Repairs to Buildings	
<i>Membership fees for 1907</i>		" <i>Lumber and materials for</i>	
<i>collected and spent</i>	79. 00	<i>fencing grounds. r.</i>	214. 06
<i>Subscriptions collected for</i>		" <i>payment in full to C.P.R.</i>	
<i>plowing match</i>	62. 00	<i>for land</i>	229. 00
" <i>Rent of land for</i>		" <i>work, fencing grounds,</i>	
<i>pasturage</i>	14. 25	<i>repairs to fence, police gatekeeper</i>	110. 39
" <i>Sundry receipts</i>	17. 74	" <i>cost of preparing mortgage,</i>	
		<i>registering transfer C.P.R. to Society,</i>	
		<i>and registering mortgage</i>	14. 80
		" <i>sundries, including exchange</i>	
		<i>affiliation fees to Stock Association</i>	
		<i>money taken for change at</i>	
		<i>fares &c.</i>	22. 96
		" <i>cartage and express</i>	16. 00
		" Balance	94. 18
	2567. 99		2567. 99

Audited and found Correct,

H. Jensen
Official Auditor.

Edward John Truam do solemnly declare that the foregoing is a true statement of the Receipts and Expenditure of The *Imperial* Agricultural Society.

And I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing it to be true and knowing that it is of the same force and effect as if made under oath and by virtue of The Canada Evidence Act 1902

*Innisfail Union Butter and
Cheese Manufacturing
Association, Limited*

Edward J. Fream, Secretary-Treasurer

Innisfail, Alberta, Canada

Oct. 26, 1909.

Innisfail.

In account with

Innisfail Union Butter &
Cheese Mfrg. Asso. Ltd.

1908

September 25th

To cost of advertising on building
near creamery for one year: 1907-08 \$3.50

1909

Sep. 25 To cost of advertisement on building
near creamery for one year 1908-09 \$3.50

\$7.00

(In accordance with arrangements made by
H. Newsham with G . W. West.)

GEARY'S DRUG STORE

Stationer

School supplies

Books

Toys

Games

Office Sundries

Musical Goods

Seeds in Season

Druggist's Sundries

Fancy Goods, etc.

Use

Geary's Own

Preparations

and

Packaged and Bottled

Drugs, &c.

in the Home

THEY ARE THE BEST

Accounts due and payable

15th of each month.

Interest charged on over-
due Accounts.

PRESCRIPTION A SPECIALTY

BOUGHT OF WILLIAM GEARY

DRUGGIST AND STATIONER

Discharged June 11th 1909

Wm S. H. West

<i>October</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>Lo 1x Arithmetic</i>	<i>30</i>
	<i>27</i>	<i>- Rx 9715</i>	<i>25</i>
		<i>- Omega Oil</i>	<i>50</i>
<i>November</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>- Perfume</i>	<i>75</i>
		<i>- Glycerine + Rose Water</i>	<i>10</i>
		<i>- Calcium Hypo. Alcohol</i>	<i>120</i>
		<i>- Sunflower Seed Pear Soap</i>	<i>55</i>
		<i>- Eukhymol J. Paste</i>	<i>25</i>
	<i>10</i>	<i>- Tooth Brush</i>	<i>35</i>
	<i>14</i>	<i>- Empty Coal Oil Lin</i>	<i>10</i>
	<i>30</i>	<i>- Grammar 1x Empty Lin</i>	<i>45</i>
<i>December</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>- 1 Empty Lin. Jap Catarrh Cure</i>	<i>60</i>
		<i>- Bay Rum. Carbolic</i>	<i>50</i>
	<i>16</i>	<i>- Empty Lin. Type writer Ribbon</i>	<i>15</i>
	<i>21</i>	<i>- 1x Brush²⁵ 1x Brush⁵⁰</i>	<i>475</i>
		<i>- 2 "Welcome" Streamers. 12x Balls</i>	<i>80</i>
		<i>- Linsel²⁵ RW + B. Tissue⁵⁰ 2 Balls¹⁰</i>	<i>95</i>
		<i>- 1 doz. Balls</i>	<i>30</i>
	<i>23</i>	<i>- Ch. Cough Cure</i>	<i>25</i>
		<i>- Chase's Ointment</i>	<i>40</i>
		<i>- 1x Book</i>	<i>150</i>
	<i>31</i>	<i>- 5x Scribbles</i>	<i>25</i>
		<i>- Rx 9715</i>	
			<i>\$ 25</i>
			<i>1665</i>

Jess Stewart. Esq.

Innisfail. Alta.

Dear sir:

Please accept the unanimous
Thanks of the undersigned Committee having
in charge the celebration of the second day
of August, the National Holiday of Iceland,
which we, on behalf of the Fındastoll
community and ourselves here by tender
you, for your handsome and valuable present;
- The Flag of Iceland:

That such gift was received from
a friend and former neighbour adds yet
more to our appreciation of it.

Dated Fındastoll. Aug The 2nd 1902.

Stein Christinsson.

Baldur Stephenson.

John Johnson.

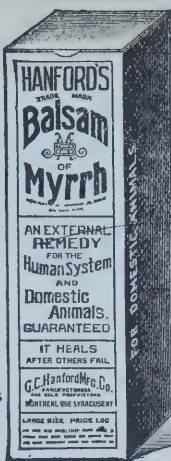
John Strong.

Harry Eymundson.

Committee.

#

It Heals



It Cures

SPRAINS STRAINS BRUISES PUFFS BUNCHES ETC.

GALLS
KICKS
CALKS
THRUSH
WIRE-
CUTS
NAIL-
WOUNDS
ETC.

CUTS
BURNS
SORES
STIFF-
NECK
SORE-
THROAT
CORN
ETC.

INNISFAIL, Alta. *Oct 1st* 1909

M

IN ACCOUNT WITH

A. B. McRae

Up-to-date Saddler,
HARNES, TRUNKS, VALISES, ROBES, BLANKETS,
BELLS, WHIPS, REPAIRING A SPECIALTY.

1909

Aug 20	To Rep. Har.	25
26	" " Halter	15
		<u>140</u>
Oct 12	Per By cash	40
	<i>Paul Carson</i>	

Innisfail, Alberta, 1902

M = W. Geary

Innisfail.

To **DOBSON BROS.** Dr.

Contractors and Undertakers.

Furniture Dealers.

1903

Copyrighted by F. W. Briggs, 75 York St., Toronto

Aug 1	To Amount due	70 82
26	" mattress	4 75
Mar 17	" picture frame	25
21	" " " Maybank	1 55
May 10	" 9 rolls paper	1 98
10	" 1 border	1 00
18	" dresser, stand, dressing table	
	stand, chiffonier, chair.	40 00
July 25	" picture frame.	2 50
Aug 25	" desk	30 00
26	By discount	50
		<u>\$152 85</u>
		50
Sept 21	To balance due	<u>\$152 35</u>

Innisfail, Alta., *Mar 26* 1909

M

In Account with

J. A. WILSON

General Blacksmith

Terms Cash

Mar	26	To 2 shoes set		50
April	16	To 4 " "	1	00
Mar	14	" " New shoes	2	00
June	18	To 2 shoes set		50
Aug	29	To 2 new shoes	1	00
Sept	24	To 4 shoes set	1	00
			<i>\$</i>	<i>6 00</i>

Account No.....



Innisfail, Alta., *Oct 22* 1909

BOUGHT OF

The Innisfail Hardware

PERCY T. GOULTER

DEALER IN SHELF AND HEAVY HARDWARE

Accounts must be settled within 30 days from date of purchase. Interest at the rate of one per cent. per month will be charged on all overdue accounts—added monthly.

<i>Oct 1/09</i>	<i>To 30 lbs 1 1/2" W Nails</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>1 88</i>
			<i>08</i>
			<i>1 50</i>
			<i>2</i>

Pay to

P.T.G.



Public Schools, Innisfail

H. T. Aylesworth, B.A.
Principal

Innisfail, Alberta Nov. 18th 1909

Innisfail's
Story
for

One Year--1922

INNISFAIL SHIPPED

—for—

Year Ending May 1, 1923

- | | |
|--|-----------|
| 1.—Creamery Butter, lbs. | 735,372 |
| Value to producer | \$225,000 |
| 2.—Eggs—Eight Cars, or 125 tons, or 124,-
980 dozen, value. | \$24,996 |
| 3.—Poultry, value | \$20,000 |
| 4.—Cattle, (head) | 5,118 |
| 5.—Hogs, (head) | 5,377 |
| 6.—Sheep, (head) | 1,191 |
| 7.—Hay, (tons) | 1,500 |
| 8.—Grain shipped for the year ending Au-
gust 31st, 1922: | |
| WHEAT—(bushels) | 151,484 |
| OTHER GRAINS— | 504,818 |
| Total—(bushels) | 656,302 |

For particulars write:

INNISFAIL DISTRICT COMMUNITY
CLUB

Innisfail, Alberta, Canada.

J. G. GODDARD, Secretary-Treas.

THE CURRY & CONSTANTINE COY., Ltd.

GENERAL MERCHANTS

HARDWARE A SPECIALTY

Innisfail, Alta. Sep 27 1909

Sold to _____

TERMS CASH.

Interest charged after 30 days

Sold by

Got by

The C-C Check Book.

The Copeland-Chatterton Co., Limited, Sole Makers, Toronto

1 Lin Petty 15

Coming to Innisfail for one night only

SATURDAY, JULY 14th

McPHEE'S
Big New Summer Shows
BIG BAND AND ORCHESTRA

Under a Large Waterproof Tent. Presenting the strongest
Five-Act Drama now on the road, entitled

"A True Kentuckian"

Up-to-date specialties between the acts. At 7 p.m., in front
of the big tent, a

Grand Free Balloon Ascension
and Parachute Jump

Will take place. All making this one of the strongest com-
panies on the road. Everything new but the name
See the Spalding Bros., the world's greatest ACROBATS
Prof. Whittie, the Champion High Wire Dancer, and
many other New and Up-to-date Specialties

You are always sure of something good when McPhee's Big
Company comes to town. Remember day and date

WESTS

JANUARY CLEARANCE

1923.



LOOK THESE PRICES OVER ;
Our LOSS Is Your GAIN

FLANNEL DRESSES REG. \$8.50 SALE PRICE \$2.95 SILK PYJAMAS

LADIES PIRET TWILL DRESSES REG. \$6.95 \$3.25 REGULAR \$2.95

LADIES SERGE DRESSES REGULAR \$9.95 \$3.95 \$1.98

LADIES FLANNEL SKIRTS REG. \$3.50 \$1.75

LADIES CREPE KIMONA'S REGULAR \$3.00 95¢

GIRLS KNITTED DRESSES REGULAR \$3.50 \$1.95

GIRLS SWEATER COATS REG. \$5.95 \$3.98

CHILDS KNITTED SUITS REGULAR \$2.95 \$1.98

HOSE DARK BROWN CASHMERE REGULAR 75¢ 47¢

KHAKI FLANNELETTE REG. 44¢ 35¢

SHIRTING BLACK & WHITE STRIPED REGULAR 50¢ 24¢

LADIES UNDERSKIRTS FLEECE LINED REG. \$1.25 66¢

DRESS FLANNELS REGULAR \$1.50 Yd. 99¢

TWEED FLANNELS REG. \$2.50 \$1.69

DONEGAL WOOL SERGE REGULAR \$2.75 \$1.67

WOOL FLANNELS REG. \$1.25 75¢

CHECKED FLANNEL REGULAR \$3.25 \$3.08

BORDERED FLANNEL REGULAR \$1.95 97¢

SUGAR, 10 POUND SACK 49¢

WHEN YOU PURCHASE \$3.00 WORTH OR OVER AT THIS SALE.

SILK & WOOL FLANNEL REGULAR \$1.65 \$1.17

LUNCHEON SETS REG. \$3.50 \$2.47

FLANNELETTE BLANKETS

LARGE SIZE

REG. \$2.65

\$2.24

LADIES HOSE

SILK & WOOL

REG. \$1.50

\$1.19

FANCY CASHMERE

REG. \$1.50

89¢

FLEECE LINED

REG. 65¢

39¢

LADIES GLOVES

WHITE WOOL

Provide Now

NOW is the time to arrange for your winter supply of COAL and WOOD. We handle coal from Taber mines, the best in the country. Wood on hand at all times.

Grain Crushing daily **Feed for Sale**
All kinds of Carpentering
Building Estimates Furnished

McFADYEN & SCHAFER

Central Ave. and Brett St.

Innisfail

Taken from
 "The Province"
 1908

INNISFAIL MARKETS

The following market reports are corrected every Thursday morning. The Province obtaining the prices paid by Messrs. West, Paterson, Stewart, Lundy, and Barkemever. Prices—

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1908

Butter, pound prints, primo	23 to 25
Eggs, per doz	30 to 35
New Potatoes, per bush	30 to 40
Oats, per bush	23 to 24
Wheat, per bush	— to —
Barley, per bush	25 to 38
Dressed Hogs, per lb	6 to 7
Dressed Beef, prime steer, per lb	— to 5c
Dressed Beef, cow, per lb	— to 1c
Mutton, per lb	9 to 11
Chickens, choice, dressed	8 to 12
Ducks, dressed	— to 12 1-2
Geese, dressed	— to —
Turkeys, dressed	— to 18c
Live Hogs, choice, per cwt	to \$4 75
Wool	— to —
Hides	— to 3c
Timothy Hay, pressed on car	\$8.00 to \$9.00
Native Hay	to \$5.50

All grains must be at least standard weight.

These prices are as corrected we can obtain them, and are guaranteed.

THE PROVINCE.

ELEVATOR PRICES

Oats, per bushel	— to 25
Wheat	30 75
Barley	25 35

Innisfail Bakery

PINE STREET

CHOICE BREAD

always on hand Fresh every day

CAKES AND PASTRY

made to order

Wm. Elliott, Proprietor

Combination Subscriptions

For the convenience and accommodation of our subscribers, we have arranged with various publishers of leading papers, for a combination subscription with **The Province**, thereby effecting a saving to them of both time and money.

Here are a Few of the Leading Offers

MANITOBA WEEKLY FREE PRESS and The Province, one year	\$1.60
THE NOR-WEST FARMER and The Province, one year	1.75
THE FARMERS ADVOCATE and The Province, one year	2.25
FAMILY HERALD AND WEEKLY STAR and The Province, one year	1.75
WEEKLY MAIL AND EMPIRE (Toronto) and The Province, one year	1.60
THE WESTERN HOME MONTHLY and The Province, one year	1.35
CALGARY HERALD, WEEKLY, and The Province, one year	1.65
CALGARY HERALD, DAILY, and The Province, one year	4.00
THE HOME JOURNAL, MONTHLY, and The Province, one year	1.35
THE TORONTO GLOBE, WEEKLY, and The Province, one year	1.60
THE ALBERTA HOMESTEAD, WEEKLY, and The Province, one year	1.35
THE CANADIAN THRESHERMAN, and The Province, one year	1.40
WINNIPEG TELEGRAM, WEEKLY, and The Province, one year	1.75
FARM AND RANCHE REVIEW, MONTHLY, and The Province, one year	1.60
EDMONTON BULLETIN, SEMI-WEEKLY, and The Province, one year	1.75

Other combinations will be added from time to time. If you do not see what you want ask for it.

Address all orders to

THE PROVINCE PRINTERS

taken from "Innisfail
Free Lance" 1903.

Use a
Heat Deflector

In connection with your
Furnace or Stoves and

SAVE FUEL

Get more heat with less labour. Get
better combustion with less ash and waste.
Write for further particulars and testimonials.

P. O. Box 196, Calgary

m23-dw

**QUEEN'S HOTEL
MACLEOD.**

The best Hotel in Southern Alberta. Good
accommodation for commercial men.

COLIN GENGE,

nov15dw

Proprietor.

**Neilson
Furniture
Co., Ltd**

We will have out a
new Illustrated Catalogue
and price list the 15th of
February, showing the
latest designs in

Parlor, Bedroom
and Diningroom
Furniture

Reed, Perforated
Cane and Cobbler
Seated Chairs

Iron Bedsteads
Etc., Etc.

We will mail a cata-
logue to anyone sending us
their address on a post card.

**BABY
CARRIAGES**

Livery!

WE wish to inform the public that we have purchased the
both Livery Barns in Innisfail and are now prepared
to give you the best in

Feed and Livery Lines

Good Horses

Good Drivers

Best of care to Ranchers' Animals

Anderson Bros.

Pioneer Livery Stables

Twin Livery Barns

The Election IS OVER

But I am not over with selling

Carnduff

Flour at prices Lower than the Lowest

First Grade	=	\$2.60
Second Grade	=	\$2.55
Third Grade	=	\$2.50

Large Discount on Mits, Gloves,
Footwear and Clothing

Good stock in Hardware Departm't

Cow Chains, etc., etc.

G. W. West
CASH AND TRADE STORE

Pinto Shell Cordovan Mitts and Gloves



- Toughest wear, flexible, warm, light
- Boil and scorch proof
- Rip and tear proof
- Rain and wind proof
- That's what H.B.K. Pinto Shell Cordovan mitts and gloves are
- Made from the hide of the Western Bronco, the toughest animal with the toughest hide, light enough to make mitts and gloves.
- Sold by dealers everywhere.
- Genuine only with this brand.

Write for "Strayed," the funniest piece of literature ever written about a Bronco—Free

H.B.K.
BRAND

H. B. K. Warm Duck Coats



H.B.K Duck Coats are warm, hard wearing garments. They are made in scores of styles—fleece lined, mackinaw wool lined, leather reversible—high storm collars, large "Kantilever" unsagable pockets.

Made to keep out the wind and the cold, the rain and the sleet. Made to keep people warm Branded with this brand. Sold by up-to-date dealers everywhere.

H.B.K.
BRAND

Hudson Bay Knitting Co.
MONTREAL. WINNIPEG.

MAKERS OF WARM WEARABLES FOR EVERYBODY

From
"Free Lance"
1903

Classified Advertisements

Advertisements under this heading, not exceeding one inch—50c. for one insertion, 3 insertions, \$1, prepaid

FOR SALE

COWS

Four good well-bred milk cows, coming in fresh in February and March; also one calf. Apply to
T. MORTON, or L. HARRY,
Grahamston, Innisfail.

CLYDES AND HACKNEYS

Three Clydesdale Stallions and three Clydesdale Mares. One Hackney Stallion and three Hackney Mares. Clydo Mares all in foal. Terms the lowest.

WALTER WHEALON

Fourteen miles east of Innisfail; one mile from Kneio Hill P.O.

CATTLE

Forty or fifty head of Young Stock, from calves to 3-year-olds.

V. SCHAFER, half-mile south Innisfail

FOR EXCHANGE

TOWN PROPERTY

Four room house; two lots; barn; all practically new; in Olds; for cat le, horses, etc.
E. W. PARNELL, Olds

LOST OR STRAYED

CATTLE

Strayed from Sec. 16-34-26-4, one roan Heifer 2 years old; one red Steer; one roan yearling Steer; one light roan yearling Steer with red head and neck, and two Heifers similarly marked. A suitable reward for information leading to their recovery.

H. A. MALCOLM, Innisfail

YOUNG STOCK

About a year ago, 2 red and white Yearlings; also 1 two-year-old, one a white faced Heifer; all branded K J 9 on right ribs. Also a black mare, 2 years old with white face and 3 white legs; branded K J 9 on left thigh.

JACOB SCHAFER, Innisfail
Sec. 6-31-27-4

ESTRAY

CATTLE

Two-year-old heifer, all red, branded reversed 3, 4, left ribs. Two-year-old steer, red and white, branded R D 5 or R D 3 (figure indistinct) on right ribs; also indistinct brand right hip. Two-year-old steer, muley, red and white, white spot in face, branded E Y O indistinct, right ribs. Steer, 3 or 4 years, all red, dehorned, branded C V quarter circle under, on left thigh.

MRS. F. WADE, Innisfail P. O.

CATTLE

One 3-year-old steer, red and white, branded fresh U on right hip; one 3-year-old muley steer, all red, branded K I V on left ribs.

J. R. MOORE, Innisfail



OVER ONE HUNDRED YEARS OF MILLING EXPERIENCE,

FLOUR CHAT

Our history of "Millers for a Century" is a guarantee of having learned thoroughly "HOW TO MAKE IT."

In the brand "Ogilvie's Hungarian" the word Hungarian typifies the very best PROCESS of milling that the world has yet discovered. Every pound of Ogilvie's Flour is now made by The Hungarian process. In this you have "HOW TO NAME IT."

The Royal Coat of Arms against our signature is Royalty's endorsement of "Best Quality." They know. They use OGILVIE'S flour from choice. It makes bread for the King's eating, as well as hundreds of thousands of his loyal subjects. This is "HOW USERS LIKE IT."

The OGILVIE FLOUR MILLS CO., Ltd.



Chamberlain
Laughs at Rivals and ever marches forward

In the public eye and in everybody's mouth. Always reliable—popular everywhere.

J. M. FORTIER, Limited, MONTREAL.

Warranted Watches

We will not sell a watch that we cannot positively guarantee.

Do not understand from this that we sell Watches of extravagant price only.

Our No. 915 Silver or Gun Metal Watch at \$6.50 is a warranted time-keeper.

When we state that we sell Watches in price as high as \$700, you can judge of our great assortment.

Write for our new catalogue. Ready for delivery Nov. 15th. It will cost you nothing, and it may be the means of saving you considerable money.

RYRIE BROS.
JEWELERS
118, 120, 122 and 124
Yonge St., Toronto

PEOPLE'S STORE, BOWDEN

WE INTEND HOLDING A

CLEARING SALE

on a number of lines during January, in order to make room for new goods now on the way. From week to week we will publish a few low prices on seasonable articles that are in demand RIGHT NOW. This is the month to save money on

**Fur Coats, Fur Caps, Ladies' Coats
and Skirts, Corsets and Clothing.**

Terms of sale are SPOT CASH OR PRODUCE.

Samuel Butler

BOWDEN

GENERAL MERCHANT

ALTA.

\$4,500 Prizes

TO SUBSCRIBERS OF

**THE PROVINCE, Innisfail,
and THE NOR'-WEST FARMER**

A \$3000 Threshing Outfit, complete; a \$400 Plano; a 20-shoe Single Disc Drill, and many other Prizes—over 220 in all—will be given by THE NOR'-WEST FARMER to the persons making the closest estimate as to the exact number of whole kernels in five pounds of No. 1 Northern wheat.

WHAT IS YOUR ESTIMATE?

To record your estimate, you merely send it in with \$1.75 as subscription to THE PROVINCE and THE NOR'-WEST FARMER for one year.

MAKE AN ESTIMATE NOW. By doing so you get the Nor'-West Farmer to Jan. 1st, 1910. In case of a tie the Estimate First Received gets the Award.

You are as likely to win as anyone; and whether you win a prize or not, you get sterling value for your money, in a year's subscription to two such papers as ours and The Nor'-West Farmer.

Send Estimates and Subscriptions to this Office

Competition Closes March 31, 1909.

ARE YOU INTERESTED

In Plants and Flowers?

If so send for our price list. We have the largest Greenhouses in Western Canada and it is filled with Roses and thousands of other choice plants and flowers as cheap as eastern firms.

Fort Rouge Greenhouse Co.

F. Francis, Mgr.,
WINNIPEG, MAN.

Pedigreed **BULLS** Shorthorn

Mr. R. D. Foley, of Manitou, Man., is shipping a car load of thoroughbred Shorthorn Bulls of various ages, to arrive here about 5th of April. They have been wintered with a view of delivery here in good shape for this seasons work, and will be sold at reasonable prices. Ranchers should see these before making their purchases, as they represent some of the finest stock in Manitoba. A car load of one or two year old steers will be delivered at same time and may be bought in a bunch or otherwise. Particulars may be had and an option secured on any animal, from

ALEX. MARTIN, Miford

WE wish to inform the public that we have purchased the both Livery Barns in Innisfail and are now prepared to give you the best in

Feed and Livery Lines

Good Horses

Good Drivers

Best of care to Ranchers' Animals

Anderson Bros.

Pioneer Livery Stables

Twin Livery Barns

Taken from
"The Province"
1908

—THE— Alberta Homestead

\$1.00 PER YEAR

The Only Weekly Agricultural Journal
West of Winnipeg

An Alberta Paper for Alberta Farmers

A special arrangement has been
made by which we are able
to offer

The Province, Innisfail,

AND THE

Alberta Homestead

For \$1.35 per year

The regular price of these two papers
is \$2.00

This offer is open to January 10, 1909.
Do not delay in taking advantage of
it and secure a year's reading at an
exceptionally low price.

IT A SNAP!

FOR SALE FOR THE NEXT
30 DAYS, A QUANTITY OF

Bounty Scrip

H. A. MALCOLM
INNISFAIL

The

CURRY & CONSTANTINE COMPANY

Limited

LEADING LINES

Moffat Stoves and Ranges

Cole's Hot Blast Heaters

Malleable Steel Ranges

The Hecla Furnace

5 Roses Flour

Mazawattee Tea

Braid's Coffees

ALL A-I GOODS

Highest Prices Paid for Butter and Eggs

Central Alberta Land Co.

INNISFAIL

ALBERTA

CANADA

LOOK! LOOK!

THIS MEANS YOU!

THIS IS YOUR OPPORTUNITY! We have the best
Best of Lands to trade for the famous Alberta Land.
Orchards in Washington, Oregon and California, and
Farming Lands in South Dakota, Minnesota, Nebraska,
Iowa, Missouri, Kansas and Illinois, all to exchange for
Alberta Land. Call or write for full particulars

MONEY TO LOAN ON LONG TERMS

INTEREST AT 8 PER CENT.

THEO. G. ONSUM, Manager

Innisfail Agricultural Society

FOURTH ANNUAL

SEED FAIR

TO BE HELD ON
FRIDAY & SATURDAY

JAN. 29 & 30

For the exhibition, sale
and exchange of
Farm Seed

\$100 in Prizes

Get a Prize List from the Secretary.
Make your entries early.

Send in your samples for testing at
once. Full information from

EDWARD J. FREAM

Secretary Innisfail

Floral Gifts for Christmas

A few of our Specialties
Lovely Plants in Bloom

Primulas, Cyclamen and Roman
Hyacinths, in 6 in. pots, only 50c.
each.

FERNS—Asparagus, Boston and
Whitman, from 25c. to \$3.

CUT FLOWERS—Carnations, \$1.50
and \$2 per doz. Lily of Valley,
75c. per doz. Hyacinths, 50c. per
doz. Paper White Narcissus, 50c.
per doz.

All plants and cut flowers packed carefully
for shipment. You will receive them in
good order.

DR. TWEDDLE Dentist, Innisfail

OFFICE IN
The Stone Block, Alberta Street

Innisfail Transfer GENERAL DRAYING BUILDINGS MOVED COAL FOR SALE

Leave all orders at W. T. Lundy's
Meat Market

W. G. WILSON

THOS. WHITE BAKER & CONFECTIONER INNISFAIL

New, Delicious Bread every day.
on sale at the
Bakery and Fairley's Fruit Store

CAKES TO ORDER

CANADIAN PACIFIC

ANNUAL

Eastern Canada Excursions

LOW ROUND TRIP RATES TO

Ontario, Quebec and Maritime Provinces

Tickets on sale Dec. 1 to Dec. 31, in-
clusive, good to return within three
months.

Tickets issued in connection Atlantic
Steamship Business will be on sale
from Nov. 21, and limited to five
months from date of issue.

**FINEST EQUIPMENT. STANDARD FIRST
CLASS SLEEPING AND TOURIST CARS
ON ALL THROUGH TRAINS.**

Two Through Express Trains Daily



Mind This.

It makes no difference
whether it is chronic,
acute or inflammatory

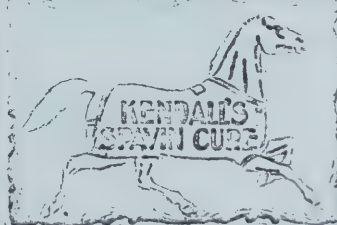
Rheumatism

of the muscles or joints

St. Jacobs Oil

cures and cures promptly.

Price, 25c. and 50c.



The Old Reliable Remedy

for Spavins, Ringbones, Splints,
Curbs and all forms of Lameness. The
use of a single bottle may double the selling
price of your horse.

GOOD FOR EVERYTHING.

DR. E. J. KENDALL CO.

Dear Sirs:—
I have been using your Kendall's Spavin Cure for some
time. I use from twelve to fifteen bottles a week and find
it an excellent remedy for Spavins, Sweeney, Galls
and all Outlets and Swellings. I have two hundred
head of horses in my care.
I enclose a stamp for your "Treatise on the Horse
and his Diseases."

Yours very truly, H. W. LAIRD.

Thousands of Men report equally good or su-
perior results from its use. Price \$1.50 per doz.
As a liniment for family use it has no equal. Ask
your druggist for Kendall's Spavin Cure, also
"A Treatise on the Horse," the book free, or
address

DR. E. J. KENDALL CO., ENOSBURG FALLS, VT.

OPERA HOUSE, INNISFAIL
ONE NIGHT, THURSDAY **JANUARY 7**

MR. W. L. STEWART PRESENTS

The Stoddard Stock Company

In the greatest Dramatic Sensation of Modern Times

“THE DEVIL”

A PLAY FOR THE THINKING MAN AND WOMEN

Prices \$1, 75c., 50c.

Seats now selling at Geary's

1908
(The Province)

**Municipality of the Town
of Innisfail**

NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that on and after JANUARY 1st, 1909, the Municipal Pound Bylaw, No. 81, WILL BE STRICTLY ENFORCED.

By Order

DAVID MITCHELL

Secretary-Treasurer

Innisfail, Dec. 30th, 1908

Mail Us Your Watch Order

We carry the largest stock of Watches and Clocks in Canada and can fill orders promptly by mail—just as well as though you shopped in person—giving you the best values on this continent. Here are a few items;

- | | |
|--|--------|
| 4311 Ladies' Solid Silver Case Watch, American Movement, | \$5 00 |
| 4349 Ladies' Gold Filled Watch, Waltham Movement, guaranteed to wear for 25 years, | 13 00 |
| 4312 Gents' 14 k. Gold Filled Extra Case Watch, A. Kent & Sons Jewelled Movement, | 25 00 |
| 4380 Ladies' 14 k. Gold Case Watch, Richly Engraved, Full Jewelled Movement, | 35 00 |

SEND FOR OUR NEW ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE AND PRICE LIST

156 AMBROSE KENT & SONS, LIMITED
YONGE ST. MANUFACTURING JEWELLERS.
TORONTO.

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Up-to-date Portraits

W. PLAYLE

PHOTOGRAPHER INNISFAIL

HOUSES OR LANDS

For \$2.25 a month you become entitled to a loan of \$1000.00 without interest. Our depositors absolutely guaranteed against loss, remember this. On our plan you can build a house or buy a farm cheaper than renting. Membership fee \$4.00. Agents wanted.

Send for circulars.

The Prairie City Loan Co.
Room 38 Merchants Bank Bldg.
Winnipeg.

South African Veteran Warrants

I can dispose of a few warrants, covering 320 acres, for \$500 each, cash. These are snaps and should be bought up quick.

To Rent—Good house, in best part of town.

Start the new year right by having your buildings insured in some good, reliable company. See me for terms. The lowest consistent with safety.

EDWARD J. FREAM

Real Estate, and Fire, Life, Accident, Guarantee, Plate Glass Insurance
Corner of Alberta St. and Central Ave., Innisfail.

G. W. WEST & SON

Forty-Five Years Service

SHOES

LADIES' WHITE SHOES
CLEARING \$1.95

CHILDREN WHITE SHOES
\$1.25 to \$1.75

METCALF SHOES

Assorted Styles
\$4.45

HOUSE SLIPPERS

45c PAIR.

CANVAS SANDLES

PAIR \$1.45

Mens'

Wear

MEN'S SUITS - 2 PAIR PANTS
Regular \$21.00. .. \$14.45

MEN'S RUBBER COATS
SPECIAL \$4.45

MEN'S DRESS SOX
3 PAIRS .. 45c

MEN'S SILK UNDERWEAR
2 SUITS \$1.45

MEN'S WORK STRAW HATS
19c

SHOES

MEN'S WORK SHOES
with Panco Soles.
At \$2.15

MEN'S SPORT SHOES
2 Tone Style.
Reg. to \$7.50. NOW . \$5.00

MEN'S HI TOP SHOES
Made by Leckie.
At \$8.45

MEN'S DRESS OXFORDS
SPECIAL \$4.45

BUTCHER SHOP

COTTAGE ROLLS ... 23c

SIDE BACON

1/2 or Whole .. 27c

COASTS, BEEF 12c

HEAD CHEESE 2 lbs. 35c

MUTTON CHOPS

2 Pounds 35c

3 lbs. HAM BURGER, 25c

3 lbs. SAUSAGE ... 25c

4 lbs. BOILING BEEF 25c

Featuring this week stall fed
Beef, fed by W. Morrison, Big
Bend.

 FRESH FISH 

Every Thursday & Friday.

WE BUY HIDES.

Ladies Wear

VOILE DRESSES
EACH \$1.25

CREPE DRESSES, PASTELS.
EACH \$2.45

HOUSE DRESSES
All Sizes 45c

HAND TOWELS
3 TOWELS 45c

WHITE PANAMA HATS
\$1.45 Each.

RAYON HOSE
2 PAIR 45c

BROADCLOTH and PRINTS
36 inches wide. 3 yds. 45c

GROCERY SPECIALS

5 lb Pail HONEY . 45c

5 Tins PORK & BEANS 45c

DILL PICKLES 45c

1/2 Gallon Jar.

5 Tins TOMATOES .. 45c

1 lb NABOB TEA .. 45c

MALKIN'S COFFEE

1 lb Glass Jar .. 45c

STRAWBERRIES

Direct from British Columbia.
LOWEST MARKET PRICE

We Reserve The Right To Limit Quantity in Grocery Department



Proposed New Wing of Innisfail Municipal Hospital

Innisfail Municipal Hospital
DISTRICT NO. 16

Hospital Extension Scheme
AND
Issue of \$25,000.⁰⁰ Twenty
Year Debentures.

NOTICE TO RATEPAYERS

Notice to Ratepayers

The Hospital Board, after giving the matter long and careful consideration, have come to the conclusion that if the hospital is to serve the best interests of the District it must be increased in size. At the present you have a 13 bed hospital which has been more or less overcrowded since it opened in 1926, during the year 1927 and 1928 the average patients per day has been 15 adults and 2.5 babies, in October 1928, however, the staff had to find accommodation for an average of 24 adults and 3 babies per day, nearly twice the capacity of the hospital every day during the whole month, there being 846 hospital days, and during the last nine months, from 1st August, 1928, to 30th April, 1929, the average patients each day has been 18.2 adults and 3.3 babies.

The following is a Statistical Report for 1928:

Number of Hospital Days	6216
Number of Operations	248
Medical	187
Maternal	169
Total	604

Number of Deaths:—

Operations	2
Maternal	2
Others	16
Total	20

Since the beginning of 1929 there have been over 100 applicants for admission to the hospital, who could not be immediately admitted, owing to lack of accommodation, these patients were, with a few exceptions, admitted at a later date, but many patients have been discharged a day or two sooner than was altogether advisable in order to make room for more urgent cases.

Petitions have been received from several areas outside the Hospital District, asking to be included in the Hospital District, but the Board had to refuse extension of area until additional accommodation had been sanctioned by the ratepayers.

The Hospital Board has had tentative plans and specifications prepared for a 15 bed extension to the Hospital, the estimated cost of new building, the necessary alterations to the present building and new equipment is \$25,000.00 and you are now being asked to vote "FOR" the bylaw giving the Board authority to issue \$25,000.00 twenty year debentures.

Since the opening of the hospital in 1926 TAXES HAVE NOT BEEN INCREASED although the Board have found it necessary to use \$10,000.00 of Current Income on Capital Account, in other words, out of \$31,855.00 taxes collected during 1926, 1927 and 1928, \$10,000.00 has been spent on Capital Account and \$21,855.00 on Operating Expenses.

The Extension and Issue of \$25,000.00 Debentures WILL NOT INCREASE TAXATION

In 1926 the taxes were \$12,252.00 and in 1928 \$12,925.00; this increase is caused by taxes on lands which were not assessable in 1926.

The following is an estimate of the 1930 income and expenditure with the 15 bed extension completed and in operation:—

INCOME—

Balance from 1929	\$ 1092.00
Patients accounts	10080.00
Supporters, Section 11	700.00
Owners, Section 11	160.00
Government Grants	4000.00
Indigent Agreements	370.00
1930 taxes	13000.00
Arrears of taxes	900.00
Taxes on new area	1200.00
	<u>\$31502.00</u>

EXPENDITURE—

Administration	\$ 2450.00
Care of patients	12450.00
General Supplies	4720.00
House and property	3350.00
Debenture repayments	6439.00
Interest on Loans	500.00
	<u>\$29909.00</u>
Surplus	1593.00
	<u>\$31502.00</u>

Interest on debenture payments are reduced \$168.00 each year
Debenture indebtedness is paid off at the rate of \$3100.00 each year.

In addition to the extra 15 bed accommodation, several improvements will be made, including a larger operating room, visitors waiting room, anesthetic room, Doctors room, increased staff accommodation, and electric refrigeration.

The average tax throughout the whole Hospital District is \$4.80 per quarter section and IT WILL NOT BE INCREASED.

CLYDES AND HACKNEYS

Three Clydesdale Stallions and three Clydesdale Mares. One Hackney Stallion and three Hackney Mares. Clydes Mares all in foal. Terms the lowest.

WALTER WHEALON
Fourteen miles east of Innisfail; one mile from Kneehill P.O.

CATTLE

Forty or fifty head of Young Stock, from calves to 3-year-olds.

V. SCHAFER, half-mile south Innisfail

FOR EXCHANGE

TOWN PROPERTY

Four room house; two lots; barn; all practically new; in Olds; for cat le, horses, etc.
E. W. PARNELL, Olds

LOST OR STRAYED

CATTLE

Strayed from Sec. 16-34-24-1, one roan Heifer 2 years old; one red Steer; one roan yearling Steer; one light roan yearling Steer with red head and neck, and two Heifers similarly marked. A suitable reward for information leading to their recovery.

H. A. MALCOLM, Innisfail

YOUNG STOCK

About a year ago, 2 red and white Yearlings; also 1 two-year-old, one a white faced Heifer; all branded **K J 9** on right ribs. Also a black mare, 2 years old with white face and 3 white legs; branded **K J 9** on left thigh.

JACOB SCHAFER, Innisfail
Sec. 6-34-27-4

ESTRAY

CATTLE

Two-year-old heifer, all red, branded reversed **5 A** left ribs. Two-year-old steer, red and white, branded **R D 5** or **R D 3** (figure indistinct) on right ribs; also indistinct brand right hip. Two-year-old steer, muley, red and white, white spot in face, branded **BY O** indistinct, right ribs. Steer, 3 or 4 years, all red, dehorned, branded **C V** quarter circle under, on left thigh.

MRS. F. WADE, Innisfail P. O.

CATTLE

One 3-year-old steer, red and white, branded fresh **U** on right hip; one 3-year-old muley steer, all red, branded **K I V** on left ribs.

J. R. MOORE, Innisfail

STEER

Came to my place, S. E. quarter 32-33-1, north of town, a red steer coming two years old, no brand, a little white under belly.

WM. HODGE, Innisfail

WANTED

HORSE HAIR

Tail and mane, combings and cuttings, 5 cts. per pound, cash.

W. HODGE, Innisfail

FOR SERVICE

COLLIE DOG

The registered Collie Dog, Alberta Hero. For terms see

ALFRED ASPINALL, The Agency.

EAGLE RIDGE FARM

Milk Cows on Sale at All Times

JOHN ROBINSON, Proprietor
Breeder of Shorthorn Cattle

What About A New Suit For Xmas

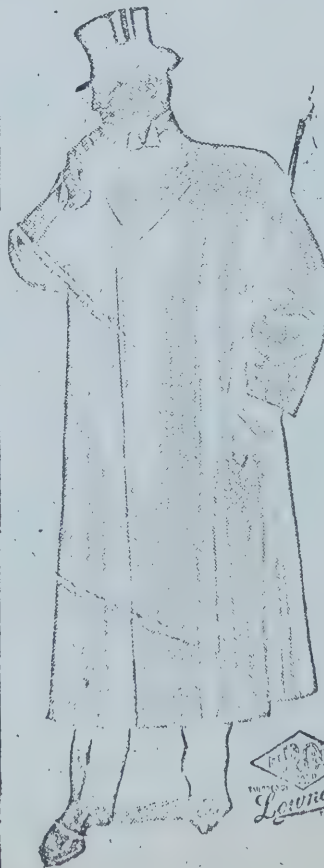
Here is Your Chance

We are clearing out all our Men's Suits at strictly cost price. We have too many of these so out they go at unheard of prices. Our lot comprises the

20th Century Brand

Also cheaper grades

"QUALITY"



"QUALITY"



Men's regular 25.00 Suits, different patterns, sizes 36 to 42 for **\$13**

Men's regular 23.00 Suits, sizes 36 to 42, clearing out at **\$16**

Men's Regular 20.00 Suits, sizes 36 to 42, clearing out at **15.00**

Men's regular 15.00 Suits, sizes 36 to 42, clearing out at **12.50**

Men's regular 12.50 Suits, sizes 36 to 42, now clearing out at **9.50**

Men's regular 10.00 Suits, sizes 36 to 42, now clearing out at **8.00**

Also all Men's Overcoats at the same reductions

J. K. McMillan

The Red Front Shoe and Clothing Store

INNISFAIL ALBERTA
3 doors west of Post Office

Kinnisten

We have all the luxuries of the season such as fresh

**Radishes, Lettuce,
Celery, and Oysters**

Try our new Taffy

Fine as silk and does not stick to the teeth.

. . . . **Silken Taffy**

Look out for our

Marmalade Oranges

1908
(The Province)

Ranchers' Cards

GRAND VIEW STOCK FARM

Breeder of Shorthorn cattle. Stock for sale at all times. Range, $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles south of Innisfail.

JAMES WILSON,
Proprietor.

LAKE VIEW RANCH

Horses, Cattle and Hogs

Horses branded **G** right shoulder
Cattle branded **QY** right shoulder.

GEORGE McCOMB,
Proprietor.

D. SINCLAIR

Willow Bank, Innisfail. Breeder of Shorthorn Cattle. Range, Little Red Deer. Cattle branded **DS** on left ribs also ear tag marked "D. Sinclair Innisfail" in left ear.

D-31-05

THE 17 HORSE RANCH

west $\frac{1}{2}$ sec. 12-34-24 W. 4th. All horses branded **17** left shoulder or **P** left thigh [**17** brand in several cases **17**] Cattle brand **KL** left hip.

GUY. M. SHAW, Prop.
ROBT. A. MITCHELL,
Pro. Manager.

Huxley, P. O.

A. W. HOGADONE

Owner of cattle branded **M U** on left ribs.

Sec. 20-34-25-4

Milnerton P. O.

JOHN SCOTT

Owner of all Cattle
branded on left hip

Arthurvale P. O.



W. HODGE

Breeder of Pure Hereford Cattle

Woodville
S E. $\frac{1}{4}$ 32-28-35-4. Innisfail, Alberta

High Class Photography

For Firstclass Portraits in all the latest styles call on

W. PLAYLE, Photographer

INNISFAIL STUDIO open from THURSDAY NOON to
SATURDAY NOON EACH WEEK

HOGS WANTED

Will Ship on Tuesday, Jan. 12th.

Price, \$4.75—and the Rise, if any.

READY TO SHIP

HENRY BARKEMEYER - Innisfail

E. F. LUDLUM

Real Estate Agent, Innisfail

REPRESENTING THE

INNISFAIL LAND CO.

**40,000 Acres of Choice Hay and Farm
Lands for Sale**

FROM \$6.00 TO \$12.00 PER ACRE

RESIDENCE AT THE ROYAL HOTEL, INNISFAIL

"THE QUALITY STORE"

1909

To my numerous friends
and customers every Happiness,
and Prosperity.

Miss A. Simpson

Druggist

Optician

Stationer

1903

THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

Depository at Innisfail for the Canadian
Government

CAPITAL PAID UP	-	\$8,700,000.00
RESERVE	-	\$3,000,000.00
TOTAL ASSETS, Oct. 31st, 1903	-	\$83,335,386.00

HON. GEO. A. COX, PRESIDENT

B. E. WALKER, GEN. MGR

Head Office

Toronto, Ontario

London Eng. Office

60 Lombard St., E. C.

New York Office

16 Exchange Place.

Innisfail Branch, West of Post Office, transacts a General Banking Business.

SAVINGS BANK DEPARTMENT. Deposits of \$1 and Upwards received and Interest allowed at Current Rates.

Correspondence and Interviews invited.

R. A. RUMSEY, Manager Innisfail Branch

"The Quality Store"

WANTED

An opportunity to show every perplexed holiday buyer our line of holiday goods. It comprises over three thousand lines.

Miss A. Simpson

DRUGGIST

OPTICIAN

STATIONER

MERCHANT OF VENICE

Dramatis Personae

SHYLOCK	MR. CARSON McCaig
BASSANIO	MISS L. TESTER
GRATIANO	MR. FOX
SALERIO	MR. D. DICKSON
SALERINO	MR. ROBT. WILSON
LORENZO	MR. D. A. MITCHELL
THE DUKE	MR. F. L. AYLESWORTH
PORTIA	MISS DONNA MacDIARMID
NERISSA	MISS LEONE MacDIARMID
JESSICA	MISS MARJORIE BRYAN
PAGES	MASTERS GEARY AND BRYAN
JAILOR	MR. CHAS. GRIFFITHS
ANTONIO	MR. JAS. BURNS

SYNOPSIS OF PLAY

SCENE I.—A room in Portia's house. Portia laments her fate. Her description of the suitors.

SCENE II.—A Street in Venice. Antonio borrows money from Shylock for Bassanio and gives his bond to the jew.

SCENE III.—A room in Portia's house. Bassanio chooses the right casket and receives news of Antonio's misfortune.

SCENE IV.—Street in Venice. Antonio in custody begs mercy of Shylock.

SCENE V.—A Court in Venice. The Merchant's triumph and Shylock's downfall.

PLAN AT GEARY'S DRUG STORE

JOHN BEAR

THE BARBER

Royal Hotel

INNISFAIL

JOHN BARNETT

Barrister

Solicitor, Notary Public, etc.

Innisfail Restaurant

Up-to-date in Every Respect
Private Dining Room for Ladies

KEILLOR'S

THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE



INNISFAIL BRANCH

W. HILBORN
MANAGER

Gunston & Kitley

Agents for the famous

MASSEY-HARRIS

RAKES BINDERS DRILLS PLOWS HARROWS
MOWERS AND OTHER FARM MACHINERY

Sawyer & Massey Threshing Outfits Gray's Carriages
Roadgraders and Scrapers Chatham Fanning Mills
Scales and Incubators. New Scale Williams Piano

OFFICE AND WAREHOUSES:

Alberta Street - Innisfail

UNION BANK OF CANADA

Capital, Rest and Undivided
Profits Exceed - \$5,000,000

Why Not Start a Savings Account Now?

Money is more plentiful now than at any other season, and you can make a good start before the New Year.

A Savings Account in the Union Bank of Canada will give you a comfortable feeling of security and make it easier to keep on saving.

\$1.00

Starts an account and deposits of \$1.00 and upwards are received. Interest at the highest current rate is paid 4 times a year.

Innisfail Branch:

W. R. WILSON - Manager

1908

Taken from Innisfail
School Gazette

ROSSLAND HOUSE

Alberta Street

Satisfaction Guaranteed in all
parts of the House.

TERMS

\$1 per day By the week \$4.50

Mrs. E. Whetham
Prop., Innisfail

Millinery

Two doors west of Paterson's Store

Will Sell all Millinery at
Cost Price

Everything must be Cleared

MRS. USHER

Next to Dr. Crawford's

R. C. Smith Expert Tinsmith

INVENTOR AND MANUFACTURER OF

The Alberta Cream Separator
Best on the Market

The Alberta Steam Washer
Absolutely Automatic

The New Idea Smoke Stack
Cures Smoky Chimneys (patent
applied for)

The Spark Eliminating Smoke Stack
For Locomotives and Threshing En-
gines. Fully tested and absolutely
prevents sparks from any fuel
used. (Patent applied for)

Dealer in Tinware and Graniteware
Eavetroughing, Cornice Work
Furnace Work a Specialty.

Innisfail - - - Alberta
ALBERTA STREET EAST

Edward J. Fream

REAL ESTATE
INSURANCE LOANS

Agent for National Trust Co., one
of the strongest firms in Canada

Money to Loan at 8 and 9
per cent.

Fire Insurance Life Insurance
Real Estate

Member of the Western Canada
Real Estate Association

INNISFAIL : ALBERTA Red Front : Innisfail

Heintzman & Co's Pianos

Bell Pianos and Organs

New Williams Sewing Machines

HEINTZMAN & CO'S PIANOS have an established reputation
so well known to the musical world that comment regarding them is
needless. Over 7,000 of them are used in the city of Toronto alone.

What the Toronto Conservatory of Music says of BELL PIANOS:
"We have had one of their instruments in the Conservatory for
general use for several months past, and found it everything claimed
by the Messrs Bell. Its tone is good, and what we consider a virtue
it has stood a great deal of hard work. It is, in brief, one of the best
pianos we have in the Conservatory."

The NEW WILLIAMS SEWING MACHINES are the cheapest
and most reliable now offered to the public. Sample at residence.

W. J. Ferguson,
Agent,
Calgary, Alta

J. L. MEIKLE & COMPANY,
Wholesale and Retail Agents,
Winnipeg, Manitoba.

n2-dw1m

"THE AGENCY"

Alberta St.

Innisfail

Fifty-one Farms For Sale

All kinds All Prices All kinds of terms

Veterans' Bounty Warrants

Full particulars in regard to Buying and Selling

Fire, Life, Accident, Sickness and Live Stock Insurance

We represent the oldest companies in the world.

Alfred Aspinall

Commissioner for taking affidavits, etc.

Innisfail

School Shoes

FOR BOYS, a good grain or
pebble shoe, heavy sole, none
better for school wear 2.00
sizes 1 to 5

FOR GIRLS, a good grain or
pebble shoe, medium 1.75
sole, sizes 11 to 2

J. K. McMILLAN

THORNE'S

POOL ROOM

INNISFAIL

Cigars

Tobaccos

G. E. THORNE PROP.

G. W.

The Arcade Departmental Stores

*Largest and Most Complete
of any Store*

WE have the largest staff of Assistants
—Superintendent of Hardware Department
E. Fawdrey—Superintendent Grocery
drey assistant. Miss Anderson—head of the
Mr. G. E. Bryan—Manager of Lumber Yard
Manager Butcher Department. Mr. W. Br
W. West, General Supervisor.

We buy everything from the farmer,
buy. Cash paid for grain and hides.

We thank our many customers for as
year than any former year of our business,

A BRIGHT CHRISTMAS AND A

G. W.

P. S.—All outstanding accounts for 1908

THE FARM

WEST

Innisfail, Alberta

st Varied Stock in Alberta

he C. & E. line—Eleven in all. Mr. A. Dallas
ent, with Mr. O. Fawdrey assistant. Mr. J.
nd Clothing Department with Mr. B. Faw-
ry Goods and Boot and Shoe Department.
r. J. Clark, Book-keeper. Mr. J. Marshall,
Cashier. Mr. G. Kirkham, Drayman. G.

carry in stock everything he requires to

ing to make our sales \$30,000.00 more this
inning in 1891.

OSPEROUS NEW YEAR TO ALL.

WEST

t be paid by December 31st.

S' FRIEND

Taken from
 "Innisfail Free Lance"
 1903

Two good Building Lots
 with Stable
 On Pine Street
H. N. MAYNARD

Lost or Strayed
 Three Yearling Heifers, all branded
V 2 T on right ribs. Any information
 leading to recovery will be suitably re-
 warded.
GEO. POWER,
 D24 J15 Innisfail

Estray
 Red Yearling Steer with white spots,
 no visible brand. Ears nicked. Came
 to my premises about November 15th.
 Owner will please identify, pay charges
 and take away.
A. ELLESS
 D24 J8 Innisfail

Strayed—\$10 Reward
 A two-year-old Bay Filly branded **F P I**
 on shoulder. Above reward paid, our re-
 turn to
W. J. HARRISON,
 Penhold.
 Also two 2-year-old steers, branded **U J**
 Yearlings when lost.
 O8 tf

Bull For Sale
 The Purebred Shorthorn Bull, Brit-
 ish Flag, five years old. Price \$65.
H. F. PODRATZ,
 Antler Hill,
 D24 Penhold P. O.

To Be Let
 The west half of Sec. 16 36 28 w. of
 4th, called The Spruces; on Edmonton
 Trail, 4 miles north of Innisfail. Good
 hay land, good house, all fenced, good
 pasture.
JOSEPH SMITH,
 Boutevre Ranch
 D17-31 Penhold P.O.

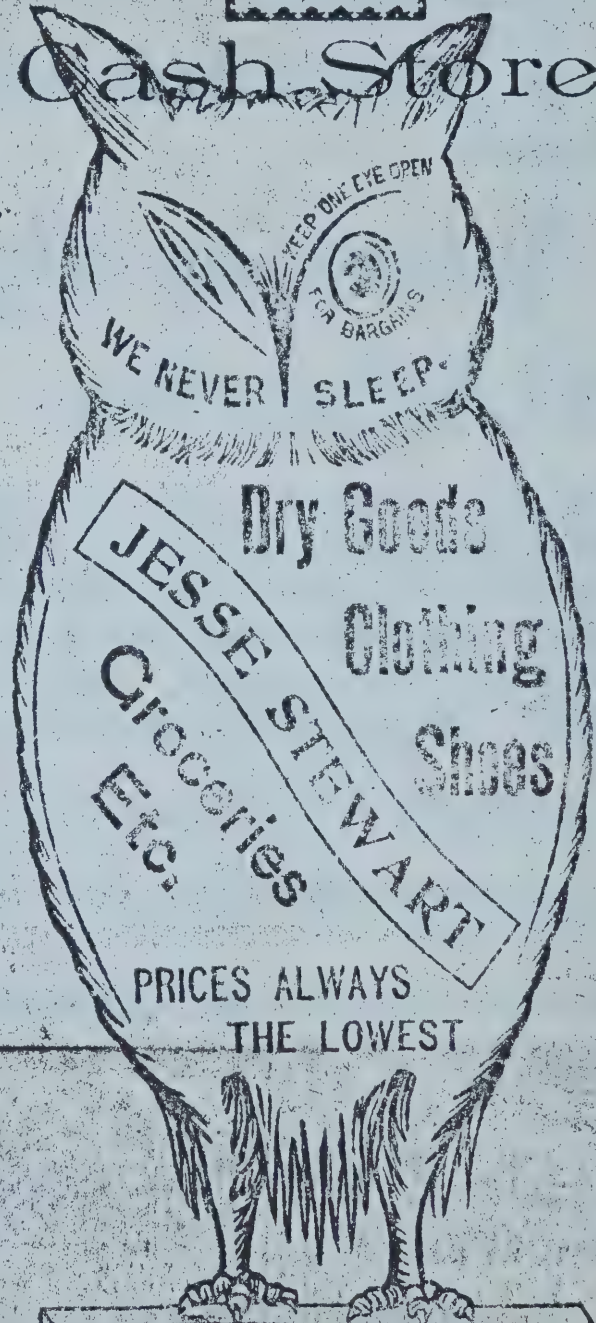
**INNISFAIL
 TRANSFER CO.**
 COMPETENT DRAYMEN

All Heavy Teaming in
 Town and Country
 BUILDINGS MOVED
 HAY AND COAL FOR SALE
W. G. WILSON,
 Proprietor

Jesse Stewart

THE

Cash Store



Dry Goods
 Clothing
 Shoes
JESSE STEWART
 Groceries
 Etc.

PRICES ALWAYS
 THE LOWEST

INNISFAIL, ALTA.

Jesse Stewart, - Innisfail



WILLIAM GEARY.

Druggist and Stationer

Innisfail, Alberta

Agent for Gerhard-Heintzman Piano
and Berliner Gramophones

Fawdrey & Rogers

GENERAL MERCHANTS,

INNISFAIL

FOR XMAS

WE HAVE

Currants
Raisins
Peel

All kinds Nuts
Layer Raisins
Shelled Almonds

Green Fruits

Remember our Cup and Saucer Tea
Ask your neighbor about it

IT IS No. 1

FAWDREY & ROGERS,

Next door to Postoffice.

"THE QUALITY STORE"

TO ALL MY CUSTOMERS

A Merry Christmas

MISS SIMPSON, THE DRUGGIST
AND STATIONER

POSITIONS GUARANTEED

The Garbutt Business College, Calgary, guarantees positions to its graduates within 30 days after graduation. Garbutt graduates are in such demand that we can do this. Our school belongs to the Business Educators' Association of Canada. We own and use 21 typewriters, which is more than that of any other school in Alberta. Write for particulars to the Principal, F. G. GARBUTT

EVANS & RALPHS

Owners of all Cattle branded **B I T**
on left ribs.

21-35-21 W. 4

Trenville P.O.

ICE AND WOOD

The Innisfail Union Butter and Cheese
Manufacturing Association, Ltd.

Tenders are required for the whole or any
part of the following:

Eighty (80) Tons of Mud Lake
Ice, more or less, exact quan-
tity to be settled by the man-
ager

Sixty (60) Cords (3x4x8) of Green
Poplar Body Wood

To be delivered at the Creamery, Innisfail,
Manager, L. M. McLean.

The conditions are as follows:—

ICE—The ton of ice to consist of 45 cubic feet; ice to be well packed in straw; all niches between the blocks to be filled up with broken ice; work to be started as soon as possible after letting the contract, and to be completed to the satisfaction of the Executive Committee, or Manager, as named.

WOOD—The cord of wood to consist of 3 ft x 4 ft x 8 ft; all sound poplar wood, split at least once; to be delivered at the Creamery not later than March 31st, 1909.

The lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

SEALED TENDERS, marked "Tender" and addressed to the undersigned, will be received until NOON ON THURSDAY, JANUARY 21st, 1909.

EDWARD J. FREAM,
Secretary-Treasurer, Innisfail

You can buy

A 40-piece semi-Porcelain Tea Set for 2.50

A real Staffordshire China Tea Set (12 pieces) for 3.25

—AT—

The Coliseum

taken from
"The Province"
1909

INNISFAIL Restaurant

ONE DOOR WEST OF
GEARY'S DRUG STORE

Confectionery
Fruits Cigars
Tobacco Cigarettes

MEALS at all Hours

SID KEILLOR, Prop.

THE KING EDWARD

is under new management
and will guarantee good sat-
isfaction in dining room and
all parts of the house

A SHORT ORDER

business will also be con-
ducted and dining room will
be open from 6.30 a. m. to
9 p. m.

Suppers & Banquets
a speciality

Calder & Wilkinson



For the Bride's
Dainty Finger
we are showing a charming line of
the most important rings
that are made—

WEDDING RINGS

The plain band of gold is still the
favorite. We have a large as-
sortment of these—wide, medi-
um and narrow, and in all sizes.

Also a large variety of
ENGAGEMENT RINGS

H. McDERMOTT,

Issuer of Marriage Licenses

The Jeweler



GOOD TEA has to reach a
HIGH STANDARD

RAM LAL'S PURE TEA

has established the Standard.
It is better than people expect
for the price. Try the Gold Label

Sold by all Grocers in ½ and 1 pound packages and
1, 3 and 5 pound Tins

Wishing

You All

A Merry

Christmas

W. G. McARUHER



CHOICE

MEATS

At Lundy's Meat Market

We buy the Best, therefore are supplying the Best in
SMOKED AND CURED MEATS
of all kinds, in large or small quantities, at any time
Our reputation for quality is well known

CHAMBERLAIN'S COUGH REMEDY

CURES

**Coughs, Colds,
CROUP,
Whooping Cough**

This remedy can always be depended upon and is pleasant to take. It contains no opium or other harmful drug and may be given as confidently to a baby as to an adult.

Price 25 cents, large size 50 cents.

TELEGRAPHY

is the first step towards positions paying from \$5,000 to \$150,000 per annum in railway service. You can become a good operator in six months if you study at the Garbutt Business College, Calgary. Write for particulars to
F. G. GARBUTT, Principal

SALE OF LANDS

Sale of Lands in the Municipality of the Town of Innisfail, and the Innisfail Public School District No. 210, for Arrears of Taxes and Costs.

Notice is hereby given that certain lands in the Municipality of the Town of Innisfail and the Innisfail School District No. 210 will be offered for sale for arrears of taxes and costs on Wednesday, the 17th day of February A.D., 1909, at the Secretary-Treasurer's office in the Town Hall of Innisfail, Alberta, from the hour of 2 o'clock until 5 o'clock p.m., and from time to time thereafter as may be found expedient.

A full list of the lands so to be offered for sale may be found published in the issues of The Province on the following dates, viz., Thursdays, November 19th, 26th, and December 3rd and 10th, 1908. And unless the arrears of taxes and costs are sooner paid the Secretary-Treasurer of the Town of Innisfail will proceed to sell the lands referred to for taxes and costs on the day and at the time and place above mentioned.

DAVID MITCHELL,
Secretary-Treasurer.

Innisfail, 16th November, 1908.

H. M. MUSTARD

TAXIDERMIST

Rug Making,
Head Mounting

All work guaranteed insect and moth proof. Prices reasonable.

H. M. MUSTARD
MARKERVILLE ALBERTA

NOTICE

TO THE PUBLIC:

I will open a FEED BARN on Pine Street in connection with the Rossland House.

Your patronage solicited.

E. WHETHAM
Proprietor

J. A. SIMPSON

LUMBER MERCHANT - INNISFAIL

If you want Lumber or Builders' Supplies, Grain Sacks or Fanning Mills, see

J. A. SIMPSON,

LUMBER MERCHANT - INNISFAIL

Furs Wanted

Highest
Cash
Price
Paid

A. ASPINALL

Improved Farm at \$7 per acre
Farm Loans at 7½ to 9 p.c.
Good Organ to trade for horse
Script for Sale
Very desirable Residential Property in Olds to sell or trade for horses or cattle
Fire and Life Insurance
Pianos and Organs

NOTE THE ADDRESS

Opposite C. P. R. Station

~~A. T. Keast~~

CANADIAN PACIFIC

ANNUAL

EXCURSIONS

TO

U.S. POINTS

Low Round Trip Rates

TO

St. Paul and Minneapolis, Minn.; Milwaukee, Wis.; Chicago, Ill.; Council Bluffs, Des Moines, Marshalltown, Cedar Rapid, Waterloo, Sioux City, Fort Dodge, Dubuque and Waterloo, Ia.; Omaha, Neb.; Kansas City, St. Joseph and St. Louis, Mo.

Tickets on sale daily

DECEMBER 1 to 31 INCLUSIVE

good to return within three months. Apply to nearest C.P.Ry. Agent for information.

The Innisfailian School Gazette

VOLUME I.

INNISFAIL, ALBERTA, CANADA, DECEMBER 4, 1908

NUMBER

G. W. WEST
The Arcade Store

UNDERWEAR

We have all kinds of Fleece Lined
and Woollen Underwear in stock.

The Cash Store

**The Leading Store
of the District**

WITH THE

**Largest Stock at
the Lowest Prices**

Try us with an order and be con-
vinced

W.C. PATERSON

Dealer in Dry Goods, Groceries, Shoes,
Clothing, etc.

School Board, 1908

G. S. Kirkham, Chairman
G. E. Kitley
R. Cooke
A. B. McRae
D. Mitchell.
E. J. Fream, Secretary of Board

Teaching Staff, 1908

F. Aylesworth, B.A., Principal
Miss N. B. Smith
Miss M. A. York
Miss M. Henderson

List of Officers for 1st Term of 1909

Honorary President—Miss Simpson
President—Miss Donna MacDiarmid
Vice-President—Miss Jeannette Fairley
Secretary—Miss Leone MacDiarmid
Treasurer—Mr. Sheppard Barwis
Executive Committee—Misses Mabel
Gillis and Marjorie Bryan, Mr. Cecil
McArthur.

Staff of the School Gazette

Editor—Mrs. Aylesworth
Assistant Editor—Miss York
Business Manager—Mr. F. L. Ayles-
worth
Assistant Business Manager—Mr. Fred
Wilson

A Strange Find

Several months ago the con-
tractors who were digging a ditch
on the state experimental farm of
Minnesota found a ship's anchor
of antique pattern buried at a
depth of six feet in solid clay
under sod never before broken.
The anchor is similar to those
used by Norsemen about nine
centuries ago.

The anchor, it is thought, is a
relic of a Norse expedition during
an era when the Red River Valley
was a portion of Lake Winnipeg,
and could be reached by sail from
the Atlantic.

G. W. WEST

THE

Arcade Store

ALL KINDS OF

HARDWARE

KEPT IN STOCK

**Our Stoves and
Ranges**

are of the best make and lowest prices

F. M. OLDHAM

BARRISTER

NOTARY PUBLIC, ETC.

INNISFAIL ALBERTA

THE
**CURRY &
CONSTANTINE
COMPANY, LIMITED**

**In General
Merchandise**

OUR MOTTO IS

"EXCELSIOR"

**G. W. WEST
"The Arcade Store"**

LUMBER

In our Lumber Yard we have a big stock of all kinds of NATIVE LUMBER. Just unloaded a CAR OF SHINGLES and one of MOUNTAIN LUMBER.

**G. W. WEST
"The Arcade Store"**

Clothing

We have a great snap in Farmer's Suits, reg. \$12 for \$7.50

**Farmer's
Sheep Lined
and Fur Coats
Cheap.**

We are after the Clothing Trade and our whole stock will be sold at low prices.

The Tailor Shop

We are ready with the UP-TO-DATE FALL & WINTER GOODS

Let us show you our

\$18.00 Suit

We don't sell off samples. Look for the shop that has the goods

GILMORE THE TAILOR

The Weekly Herald

"HOME RULE FOR ALBERTA"

CALGARY, ALBERTA, THURSDAY, APRIL 2, 1896.

SEEDS

YOU WANT THEM. CAN GET THEM
FROM MERCHANTS OR DIRECT
FROM US. CATALOGUE FREE

SPECIAL OFFERS. Post Free. Our Selections.

- B-8 Fuchsias, assorted, 50c.
- I-6 Roses, ever-blooming, 50c.
- G-8 Geraniums, good, 50c.
- V-6 Canna Bulbs, as'd, for 50c.
- A-8 Montbretias, pretty, 50c.
- U-30 Gladi's Bulbs, mx'd, 50c.
- E- Sweet Peas, Coll. 30 var. 50c.
- E- Window Coll., each
- Ivy and Show Geranium
- Coleus, Manetta-Vine
- Mexican Primrose, Fuchsia
- Heliotrope & Tradescantia 50c.

Any 2 8c. 3 for 12c. 3 for 18c. 3 for 24c. 3 for 30c. 3 for 36c. 3 for 42c. 3 for 48c. 3 for 54c. 3 for 60c. 3 for 66c. 3 for 72c. 3 for 78c. 3 for 84c. 3 for 90c. 3 for 96c. 3 for 102c. 3 for 108c. 3 for 114c. 3 for 120c. 3 for 126c. 3 for 132c. 3 for 138c. 3 for 144c. 3 for 150c. 3 for 156c. 3 for 162c. 3 for 168c. 3 for 174c. 3 for 180c. 3 for 186c. 3 for 192c. 3 for 198c. 3 for 204c. 3 for 210c. 3 for 216c. 3 for 222c. 3 for 228c. 3 for 234c. 3 for 240c. 3 for 246c. 3 for 252c. 3 for 258c. 3 for 264c. 3 for 270c. 3 for 276c. 3 for 282c. 3 for 288c. 3 for 294c. 3 for 300c.

STEELE BRIGGS SEED CO.

THE INDUSTRIAL AGE Devoted to the development of resources
Monthly. Illustrate 1. of Southern California
1141 Ar. Elmore, Cal. Land of Sunshine
The American River. Fruit and Fly ers

**Innisfail,
ALTA.**

STORES,
OFFICES AND
DWELLINGS TO
RENT
IN CENTRAL POSITIONS.

**Improved
Farm
For
Sale.**



**FERRY'S
SEEDS**

Perfect seeds grow
paying crops. Perfect seeds
are not grown by chance. Noth-
ing is ever left to chance in grow-
ing Ferry's Seeds. Dealers sell
them everywhere. Write for

**FERRY'S
SEED ANNUAL**
for 1896. Brimful of valuable
information about best and new-
est seeds. Free by mail.
D. M. FERRY & CO.,
Windsor, Ont.

From "Weekly Herald"
1896

"The College,"

CALGARY, ALTA.,
W. Eugene Perrin, Principal

Pupils thoroughly prepared for English and Canadian Universities. Special attention given to the preparation of boys for professional life. A sound commercial education given in the commercial course.

It has been found necessary to commence a Junior class for boys under eight years of age, so that a proper foundation of infant education may be given before they enter the College itself.

Next (third) term will commence Monday, Jan. 13th, 1896.

For prospectus apply to the Principal.
Parents' wishes with regard to religious education strictly adhered to.

MACLEOD HOTEL

Macleod, Alberta.

Good accommodation for the travelling public.

T. H. STEADMAN,

Proprietor

Proprietor

Thoroughbred Poultry

Eighth Season

Sittings from high class B. Minorca and 45-cent Plymouth Rocks only \$2 per 13; \$3.50 per 26; \$5 per 39. Ten per cent discount on orders before May 1.

W. C. CLAXTON,

Box 112, Calgary

Mains Improved Leather Suspender

Patent Equalizer Attachment

Every Man Needs Them
Because

1. They won't pull off buttons.
2. They won't fall off your shoulders while working.
3. They will outlast a dozen others.
4. You can't get yourself in a position to get a strain on them.
5. They are the most practical.
6. They won't stain the clothing.
7. They are the latest thing out.

By Mail \$1.00 Post Paid

Give weight and height when ordering. Salesmen wanted in every town. Write for particulars.

W. C. CLAXTON, Sole Agent for Alberta.
Box 112, Calgary.

LEVI STRAUSS & CO'S



COPPER RIVETED CLOTHING

EVERY GARMENT GUARANTEED.

FACTORY - SAN FRANCISCO - CALIFORNIA.

It is most distressing

to hear a child cough, and a cough or a cold with a young child is a very serious thing, as it so frequently develops into pneumonia or other lung troubles before it is realized. Too much care cannot be exercised with children at this season.

The least medicine given the better, but in case of trouble the sooner given the better. It is never necessary to give strong and powerful drugs and chemicals to a baby. We believe a mild and safe remedy is best for children.

WE KNOW that Baby's Cough Syrup is the best remedy you can give your child for Coughs, Colds, Croup and Whooping Cough. We know and guarantee it to be free from opium, morphine, chloral, alcohol or any other poisonous ingredients.

It has the largest sale of any cough medicine in Calgary, and is prescribed by some of our leading physicians. Sent to any address on receipt of price.

Try it, 25c per Bottle

M. E. WALDON & Co., Drugmen,
Clarence Block, Calgary

ENCOURAGE

Home
Industry

and

Local

Preferential

Trade

Choicest Bacon and Hams

Messrs. Stone & Co., pork packers, Calgary were awarded the Gold Medal at the Territorial Fair, held in Regina in 1895, for their exhibit of meats.

Their products have gained a universal and unrivalled reputation for excellence.

Every Ham or piece of Bacon cured by them bears their brand.—Stone & Co., Calgary.—Ask for Stone & Co.'s curing, and insist upon getting it.

Stone & Co. make their purchases, as far as possible, amongst the farmers of Alberta; thereby providing a new market for the produce of the country.

When you buy Stone & Co.'s products you are helping, therefore, not only to settle and to build up the country, but also to build up the town of Calgary, whose future prosperity depends entirely and wholly upon the success of those settled in the country surrounding her.

You cannot afford to allow money to leave the country which can, and should, be kept at home.

Pork
Packers

STONE & Co., Calgary
Alberta

Refrigerator Service

Season 1910

North to Red Deer	-	Monday Wednesday
North of Red Deer	-	Monday Thursday
South to Macleod	-	Tuesday Thursday
South to Lethbridge	-	Saturday Wednesday
East to Medicine Hat	-	Monday Thursday
East of Medicine Hat	-	Monday
Crow Nest to Coleman	-	Tuesday Thursday
West to Laggan	-	Monday Thursday
West of Laggan	-	Saturday
Lacombe Branch	-	Wednesday
Wetaskiwin Branch	-	Wednesday
Langdon Branch	-	Thursday

Orders must be in not later than 2 o'clock day of shipment.



There is
more gold in
ROOTENAY

Than there
was in
California

More silver
than in
Colorado

Mining has assumed such proportions that people are being attracted from all over the world. The C. P. R. will run a personally conducted party, leaving on April 7th, reaching any part of the mining country early on the 10th. Write for maps and particulars

G. HILLIER, Agent, Calgary

R. KERR, Traffic Mgr., Winnipeg

Calgary Crescent Creamery

Manufacturers of famous brands of Alberta

SEPARATOR BUTTER

Highest awards given at Winnipeg, and Department of Agriculture, '96, grading 100 points for the English market. Also agents for the best

CREAMERY SEPARATORS

on the market. Sold upon their merits. Satisfaction guaranteed. Price low for cash. Reduction of 25% for creamery patrons, with special advantages for paying for machines on the installment plan. Correspondence solicited.

Smith & Sibbald,
Proprietors

Telephone No. 117.

DEAFNESS. An essay describing a really genuine Cure for Deafness, Singing in Ears, &c., no matter how severe or long-standing, will be sent post free. Artificial Ear drums and similar appliances quickly superseded. Address **THOMAS KEMPE**, Victoria Chambers, 19 Southampton Buildings, Holborn, England. 87-117



Address — Macleod.
Range between Kootenai and Belly Rivers.
Vent inverted O on left side, with double down cut downlap.

Horses branded P on left jaw, vent S on left hip.

W. F. COCHRANE, Manager

THE CLYDESDALE RANCH

Millerville, P. O.

R & J A TURNER, PROPRIETORS



Importers and Breeders of Clydesdale and Hackneys

Shorthorn Cattle and Shropshire Sheep

24

SELECT

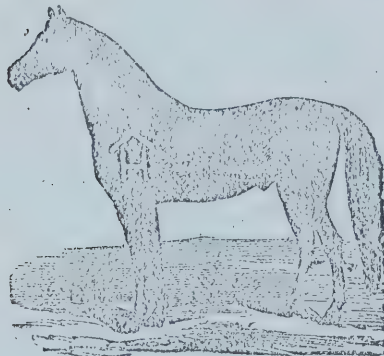
Shropshire Ram Lamb

FOR SALE

They are all descendants from the flock of the celebrated breeder, Mr. A. E. Mansell, Harrington Hall, Suffolk, Eng. Also a first class yearling Shorthorn Bull registered as Prairie King.

For further particulars apply as above

ELBOW PARK RANCH.



R. G. ROBINSON. Range Elbow Park
Address Box 21 Calgary.

Cattle branded same as cut on right and left side. Ear marks - crop and split on right ear. Vent same as cut on right shoulder. Also owner of cattle branded OK and 19 on left ribs.



Horses branded same as cut on left shoulder. Vent same inverted on left hip. Also owner of horses branded B on left shoulder.

H. D. CRITCHLEY,

Address: Box 210
Calgary.



Cattle branded same as cut on left ribs.

Vent X

W. L. KERRICK

Range: Grand Valley
Address: Milford

Cattle b and same as cut and downlap and left ear crop.

Horses branded with crown on left thigh.



On the Square

There is only one way of doing business now-a-days. The time was when people would pay 60c for a pound of very inferior tea in order to get a cheap "prize" of some kind. Now

when they buy tea they want tea—not crockery or tinware. The teas we sell are the very best. Ram

Lal's Pure India Tea, in ½ and 1 lb packages, 50c lb.

Our Special Blend Ceylon Tea in ½ and 1 lb packages, 50c per lb.

Our Famous Blend in ½ lb packages, 40c.

Blooker's Dutch Cocoa, ½ lb tins, 30c.

Van Houten's Cocoa, ½ lb tins, 30c.

Epps Cocoa, in ½ lb packages, 12½c.

When buying any of the above don't forget our Evaporated Cream 15c per tin, or 3 for 40c.

The **KERR BROS.** Clarence Block.

Windows and Doors

... at

Very Low Prices

Having a very heavy stock of building material at our factory this spring we have reduced prices to an average that has hitherto been unknown in Calgary.

WE OFFER

Store Fittings, Doors
Windows, Blinds, Brackets
Turnings, Mouldings,
Scroll Work, Nicknacks
Stairs, Church Furniture
and all kinds of Repairs

At these greatly reduced prices and guarantee everything of the best.

To Parties Contemplating Building

this spring we are prepared to quote estimates that will be an eye opener.

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NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a special general meeting of the shareholders of this company will be held on Wednesday, the 8th day of April, 1896, at the company's office, No. 10, Alexander Corner, Calgary, at 12 o'clock noon, when the following bylaws, made by the directors of the company, will be submitted for the approval of the shareholders: (1) A Bylaw for increasing the capital stock of the company from 44 shares to 200 shares of \$500 each. (2) A Bylaw for changing the name of the company to "The International Navigation & Trading Company, Limited." Dated at Calgary, this 16th day of March, 1896.

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